FBIS DAILY REPORT

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PLO SPOKESMAN GIVES REACTION TO AS-SADAT SPEECH

LD012140 Paris Domestic Service in French 2000 GMT 1 May 79 LD

[Excerpts] Most heads of state in the world have made May Day speeches, and among the many addresses there is one which runs the risk of causing a great stir: the speech by Anwar as-Sadat.

Above all, Anwar as-Sadat attacked the PLO. For him, the PLO no longer has any rights on the West Bank or in the Gaza Strip. From now on, Egypt alone will represent the interests of the Palestinians in these territories. For the PLO, this is equivalent to the highest treason. So we did not have to wait long for the reaction of the PLO head office: it is, not surprisingly, scathing. Listen to PLO spokesman Mahmud Labadi, speaking to our correspondent Christain Billmann in Beirut:

[Labadi--in French--begin recording] It is not up to As-Sadat, it is not up to a traitor like As-Sadat, it is not up to a (?Petain) like As-Sadat to decide whether the PLO represents the Palestinian people. We have never asked As-Sadat to be our representative, and his attitude does not surprise us because he is still a traitor, he is still America's man, he is still Begin's man. Well, for us it is the same thing. We will continue the struggle because we have no other choice: We will continue resistance to the Israeli occupation of our country. [end recording]

PLO'S QADDUMI INTERVIEWED ON MIDDLE EAST SITUATION

JN012039 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in Arabic to the Arab World 1100 GMT 1 May 79 JN

[Report on interview granted by PLO Political Department chief Faruq Qaddumi to Palestinian news agency WAFA and AS-SAMID magazine on occasion of Labor Day--date and place not given]

[Excerpts] Regarding the UN resolutions on the Palestinian people's right to self-determination and on other subjects concerning the Palestinians in the fields of economy, education and culture, Abu al-Lutf said: The resolutions adopted by the United Nations and its affiliated specialized organizations are obvious proof of our victories in many areas on the international level. We can benefit from all these resolutions by taking advantage of all the UN establishments in various fields--the economic, health, cultural, educational and other fields. It is necessary for us to attend conferences by these establishments to legitimize our entity as an independent Palestinian state. We must never remove ourselves from these establishments. We have been able to benefit from these establishments, both morally and materially, in all fields. We are in contact with these establishments to obtain every economic, social and educational support which these specialized bodies and conferences can provide. We have achieved a good deal of success in this respect.

Question: The Palestinian revolution and the Arab region are facing new circumstances after the signing of the Egyptian-Israeli peace agreement. What future action is being prepared by the Palestinian revolution?

Answer. The signing of the agreement, the so-called Israeli-Egyptian peace, is a tragic step for the Arab region. This is undoubtedly a deviation from the right line and from the Arab nation. It is treason against the Arab nation and the Palestinian people. The Arab nation adopted resolutions and sanctions during the Baghdad summit and the Arab ministers conference to punish the Egyptian regime because it embarked on such an act of treason.

Well, after the 1948 war, the West Bank was taken by Jordan and Gaza came under Egyptian administration. He said: We know that Egypt did not annex Gaza, but the West Bank was annexed by King 'Abdallah and King Husayn continued to control it after him. Well, what does it mean that you are now coming to tell us about a Palestinian state? Why did you not establish a Palestinian state after the 1948 war instead of having King 'Abdallah seizing the West Bank and then say that it was part of his kingdom. That was sound logic and the Arabs are hearing it for the first time.

I admit that while I was sitting with Carter and Begin that for a few moments I was perplexed and was at a loss for an answer. We are actually calling for a Palestinian state. Yes. Well that was logical. The West Bank and Gaza from which you want to create a Palestinian state had been in your possession since 1948 and why have you not formed it? The West Bank was seized by King 'Abdallah and annexed by him to his kingdom. After that, King Husayn drew up a plan which he called "the united kingdom" and he included the West Bank in it.

I cover up a great deal of our Arab calamities and do not speak a lot. But on that I could not keep quiet. I told him: Listen, you cannot win this argument because what you are saying has actually taken place, but if King 'Abdallah betrayed the Palestinian issue, I am not ready to betray it. [cheers and applause]

Is this not Arab solidarity? Is this not the Arab solidarity they are lamenting? I am addressing myself to the Saudis today. I have something to tell you so that we may dot the I's. What would the Saudis answer if they were asked this question [of why a Palestinian state was not set up in 1948]? It appears that somebody has planted it in their minds so that they can control the leaders of the Arab nation. In other words, the recent operation of severing the Arab relations was arranged. The majority of the Arabs who severed their relations did so out of courtesy to Saudi Arabia. Saudi Arabia paid a price to the minority to sever these relations. Some of those who acted out of courtesy and who got paid wrote to me saying: You are aware of the circumstances and you are not unaware of the conditions. [slight commotion] I want to ask: What would our brothers in Saudi Arabia answer when faced with such a question? The one who wants to be in command must be strong and capable of confrontation.

In the name of Arab solidarity, they named King 'Abdallah commander in chief of the Arab armies in 1948. Why? 'Abdallah is cunning. He told them: By God, if you do not make me commander in chief, I will step out of Arab solidarity. They scurried behind Arab solidarity and brought in King 'Abdallah, the commander of the Arab armies. King 'Abdallah gave half of Jerusalem to Israel and vacated Lydda and Ramlah to Israel. He arranged all this with Israel when he was commander of the Arab armies and in the Arab League.

Is this the Arab League they are crying over today? Is this the Arab solidarity they are crying over today? I am sorry. I told Begin, I am sorry. I adhere to a Palestinian state in the West Bank and Gaza and even if King 'Abdallah had carried out a betrayal and the Arabs kept quiet about it, I shall not carry out a betrayal. [cheers and applause]

We did not make peace with speeches or words. We made our peace with our blood, the sacrifices of our sons. We did not make peace while sitting at the Baghdad conference--the conference of abuse, slander and rancor. No, we made peace with a language understood and appreciated by the world. For the first time in 30 years the world knew the reality of the issue.

Efforts are also being exerted now to build up the strength of the frontline and confrontation states to face these new challenges and to foil all negative results of the secret agreements. Contacts have been made on the international level to bring world opinion to our side by explaining the problem and by showing that such an agreement will increase the possibilities of war and not of peace. On the contrary, the agreement has destroyed the combined international efforts to achieve a just and lasting peace in the Middle East. It has taken the area back to the time of military pacts. It is an agreement of military reconciliation between Israel and Egypt under the aegis of the United States.

This agreement was made after U.S. influence collapsed in Iran. The Iranian revolution liquidated this U.S. influence and thus the American administration deemed it necessary to create the agreement. The agreement is one of war because it will supply both sides with large amounts of sophisticated weapons. Israel will receive more than Egypt because Egypt is only meant to play the role of a policeman in the Arab region and in Africa. Therefore, we must stand and face these challenges. The Egyptian regime must be completely besieged so it cannot carry out these police missions in the Arab region and in Africa. To prove to the world that this agreement will not lead to peace and that it has increased the possibilities of war in the Arab region, we refer to the Israeli aggression against Lebanon and the Palestinian camps. These raids are clear proof of Israel's policy of aggression and expansion after the signing of the agreement.

Question: How do you view the possibility of strengthening our alliance with other groups in the international revolutionary movement in a way that will result in strengthening our revolution on the revolutionary, economic and military levels?

Answer: Because we are part of the international liberation movement, we have established strong relations with all liberation movements in the world. They are old relations based on understanding and on the struggle against racism, imperialism and Zionism all over the world--whether in Africa, Asia or Latin America. We coordinate our actions through international conferences. Through such conferences, we support those movements and people who are fighting for their national independence. We try to do our best to coordinate efforts with nationalist and progressive countries through the nonalined movement, and through Islamic and African conferences, to confront the challenges facing some of these liberation movements. We also try to provide the necessary support in various ways. We coordinate our work with all such movements, such as those struggling against racism in South Africa. These movements also coordinate with us and we provide them with all the support we can. We cooperate in all international fields to back these movements throughout the world.

BUDAPEST RADIO CARRIES INTERVIEW WITH PLO'S SALAH KHALAF

LD282148 Budapest Domestic Service in Hungarian 2120 GMT 27 Apr 79 LD

[Budapest radio commentator Gyorgy Onodi's interview with PLO leader Abu Iyad--date not given; answers recorded in Arabic fading into Hungarian translation]

[Excerpt] [Question] The Egyptian-Israeli separate deal refers to administrative autonomy to be given after a while to the population of the West Bank and the Gaza Strip. What is the PLO's opinion of this solution?

[Answer] The separate peace agreement mentions self-government for the Palestinians. I wish to reiterate what we have said often and clearly: The Palestinian people are fighting not for self-government, but for the right to self-determination, including the formation of their own state. We cannot accept self-government because it is only intended to mislead our people. The position of the Palestinian population living in the occupied territory would not change at all with the self-government offered in the peace treaty. If we accepted autonomy from Israel in any form it would mean the recognition of its control over these territories and even the surrender of our right to self-determination. I think it logically follows from all this that we are rejecting not only the administrative autonomy mentioned in your question, but if this were only the starting point in the negotiations and later we were offered full autonomy, we would reject the latter also. I should like to say that the idea of autonomy mentioned in connection with the Egyptian-Israeli separate peace is nothing but a maneuver. As-Sadat would like the Arab countries and the world to believe he has achieved a comprehensive settlement and has not betrayed the Palestinian people.

[Question] There may be several reasons why the Israelis would like to maintain this autonomy. Don't you think the Israelis are trying to gain time and expect a Palestinian leadership to be formed which will be willing to cooperate with the Israelis and which would be an alternative to the PLO? More precisely, aren't the Israelis trying to promote the creation of a Palestinian leadership to replace the leading body of the PLO?

[Answer] I am sure the Israelis are doing almost anything to avoid cooperation with the PLO. But I am also sure that the Palestinians living in the occupied territory regard the PLO as the only legal representative of our people. For this reason the Egyptian-Israeli maneuvers are doomed to failure from the start. Of course, I could rightly say that there are not only patriots, but also traitors, but they cannot mislead the people. Therefore I am certain that even if candidates are found when a system of self-government is formed, they will look in vain for electors.

[Question] Let us speak now of a most special element of the new situation, the relations between the PLO and King Husayn. There was some surprise when the Jordanian monarch did not hasten to join the Camp David trio and was even the first to break off diplomatic relations with As-Sadat while at the same time he received high-level Palestinian leaders. Does this mean that water can be thicker than blood?

[Answer] We have long decades, long experiences with King Husayn. They warn us to be very cautious. It is a fact that the stand taken by King Husayn on the Camp David deal is not a bad one and this is what encourages us to enter into a dialog with him. Of course, we know clearly the reasons for the present attitude taken by the Hashemite ruler: Husayn knows that if he supports the separate deal he will not get any territory back and must reckon with internal public opinion turning against him, which might cost him his throne. If he does not join the Camp David partners, he will not get back territory, but at least his power is not at risk. Evidently Husayn has chosen the lesser evil. To all this I have to add: A test of Husayn's future attitude is whether he will consent to activity of the PLO in Jordan and in the occupied territories through Jordan.

[Question] Let us now talk about Lebanon. The peculiar thing is not only that an independent state has been proclaimed on a territory hardly larger than Budapest or that the leader of the separatist action is not a well-known rightwing leader like Sham'un or Al-Jumayyil. The strangest thing is that the declaration of independence was made in Israel and at the time of the all-Arab attack on the Egyptian-Israeli separate peace. What is your opinion on Major Haddad's action?

[Answer] This is a natural consequence of the separate peace. The proclamation of the so-called Lebanese free state is aimed, naturally, against the Palestinian revolution. I must stress that they also have their sights on Syria, since a considerable number of Syrian soldiers are still stationed in Lebanon.

[Question] New agencies report that since the conclusion of the Egyptian-Israeli separate peace the activity of the Palestinian resistance movement has intensified. The field is rather wide and various actions have been taken. Do all member organizations of the PLO agree to these very disparate actions?

[Answer] Indeed, there are great differences in these armed actions. In this connection I should like to mention that the PLO fully encourages and supports the military actions carried out in the occupied territories. What happens outside the occupied territories, the PLO does not always agree to. Consequently, it does not always support and approve it.

[Question] We have arrived at the last question in our conversation. This deals with Saudi Arabia and the clearly pro-Western states which did not take the road to Camp David and even met the countries of the front of steadfastness in Baghdad. Abu Iyad, do you and your associates regard this anti-Egyptian Arab front as different from and more than a tactical alliance?

[Answer] Saudi Arabia is not the only one in the area to follow a pro-Western political course. Still, I think that aside from As-Sadat there is no Arab leader who would be able to betray so openly the joint Arab cause and the Palestinians cause. For this reason I am certain that As-Sadat will soon pay dearly for his policy. Regarding your question, I believe that in the short run the countries attending the Baghdad conference will stick to the resolutions adopted. What happens later depends to a great extenton how the Syrian-Iraqi cooperation develops. If it continues positively, we can force the Arab regimes to stand by the Baghdad resolutions. To express myself more clearly, even the non-progressive Arab regimes will stand at the side of the fighting Arab countries whatever happens, irrespective of their social systems and ideological views. Finally, I would stress that the most important thing is that the Palestinian standpoint should be as firm and consistent as possible, that as good and close a cooperation should be formed with the socialist countries as possible, since this can determine the attitudes of all Arab countries regarding cooperation with US.

[Question] Thank you for the interview.

ISLAMIC CONFERENCE IN MOROCCO TO DISCUSS SUSPENDING EGYPT

LD011716 Tripoli JANA in English 1636 GMT 1 May 79 LD

[Text] Tripoli, May 1, JANA--The JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY learnt that the General Secretariat of the Organization of Islamic Conference has entered the suspension of Egypt's membership on the agenda of the 10th conference of the Islamic countries' foreign ministers due to be held in Fez, Morocco, between 8-12 May current.

The conference will study the Jamahiriyah's proposal to amend the U.N. Charter concerning veto as well as the charter of the Organization of the Islamic Conference and to elect its secretary-general.

The Islamic countries' foreign ministers conference will listen to reports on Jerusalem and the latest developments of the conflict in the Arab region and of the Palestinian cause.

The conference will also discuss Zionism as a racist movement as well as racism in the world.

The conference will set up five committees on, respectively, politics, information, culture and Islamic affairs, finance and administration, economy and general issues.

The JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY learnt that the Jamahiriyah's delegation headed by the foreign secretary, Dr. 'Ali 'Abd as-Salam at-Turayki, will leave for Fez next Friday to attend the conference.

ARAB TELECOMMUNICATIONS CONFERENCE IN TUNIS PLANS SATELLITE

LD011554 Tunis TAP in English 1402 GMT 1 May 79 LD

[Text] Tunis, May 1st (TAP)--The second session of the Arab Telecommunications Organization General Assembly opened its proceedings Monday in Tunis. Delegations at a ministerial level from all Arab countries except Egypt attend this session, which proceedings will last until May 2. In his inaugural address, Tunisian Transport and Communications Minister Abdelhamid Sassi stressed the meritorious efforts which the Arab Telecommunications Organization is making to establish an inter-Arab communications system on modern basis and to make exchanges in the fields of economy, culture and information easier by putting an Arab satellite into orbit within a few years.

Nahed Bacha, Arab League interim secretary general, will stress the need to think about the proper way to exploit Arab-SAT [spatial telecommunications organization] by centering its efforts on two directions:

--First by defining a global policy, allowing the Arab Telecommunications Organization to achieve a perfect complementarity between air and land communications networks; then by urging the Arab leaders to build now the transmitting-receiving stations on the ground which should be linked with the Arab satellite.

KUWAIT

AS-SIYASAH: ATTEMPTS UNDERWAY TO OUTFLANK OPEC

JN010950 Doha QNA in Arabic 0910 GMT 1 May 79 JN

[Text] Kuwait, 1 May--Quoting unofficial gulf oil sources, the Kuwaiti newspaper AS-SIYASAH says today that some countries are trying to outflank OPEC and transfer some of its powers to the United Nations.

The paper, quoting the same sources, added that Mexico has tried to convince some OPEC countries that it is more feasible for some oil issues of an international character to be transferred to the United Nations. This took place during the visit of (Rafael Azagardo), personal representative of the Mexican president, to Kuwait and Saudi Arabia.

Some of these issues are dialog among oil-producing and oil-importing countries, production averages of the OPEC countries and the issue of balance with the world market.

This attempt aims at giving the United Nations the right to discuss these issues, adopt decisions on them and commit oil-producing countries to these decisions.

The sources, as quoted by the paper, have expressed anxiety that Mexico has carried out such a step as a result of U.S. pressure on Mexico during President Carter's recent visit to that country.

The visit of the Mexican official to Saudi Arabia and Kuwait took place last week.

OMAN

FOREIGN MINISTRY UNDER SECRETARY LEAVES FOR PAKISTAN

JN011555 Manama GULF NEWS AGENCY in Arabic 1414 GMT 1 May 79 JN

[Text] Muscat, 1 May--Omani Foreign Ministry Under Secretary Yusuf al-'Alawi left here today for Pakistan on an official 3-day visit. Radio Muscat, which reported this today, did not specify the aim of the visit.

SAUDI ARABIA

OIL MINISTRY SOURCE DENIES REPORT ON SALE OF OIL AT MARKUP

LD020908 Riyadh SNA in Arabic 0810 GMT 2 May 79 LD

[Text] Riyadh--A responsible source at the Ministry of Oil and Mineral Resources has denied a recent report that the kingdom had sold its oil on the free market at much higher prices than those defined by OPEC. The source refuted what KUNA reported last Monday, citing oil sources, that four Middle East oil-exporting countries, including Saudi Arabia, were taking advantage of the market circumstances and were selling their oil at prices much higher than those fixed by OPEC.

In a statement to SNA, the responsible source said that the report was without foundation in spirit and letter, explaining that the kingdom does not sell even one barrel of oil on the free market; all the oil it exports is sold in accordance with existing contracts and at prices which were fixed by OPEC and posted at the time. Nor has the kingdom levied any additional duty on any kind of its oil, contrary to what is happening in other oil-producing countries.

The source added that if any Saudi oil has been sold on the free market, as KUNA reported, this must have been done by the companies that buy Saudi oil at relatively low prices, so as to make additional personal profit.

UAE

ERITREAN ENVOY ARRIVES IN ABU DHABI ON VISIT

JN011444 Abu Dhabi EMIRATES NEWS AGENCY in Ar .c 1320 GMT 1 May 79 JN

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 1 May--Ibrahim Mahmud, officer in charge of foreign information in the Eritrean Popular Liberation Forces, arrived here today on a visit to the UAE lasting several days. He will hold talks with officials on the latest developments in Eritrea.

EPLF Chairman's Dismissal Denied

JN011628 Manama GULF NEWS AGENCY in Arabic 1600 GMT 1 May 79 JN

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 1 May--Ibrahim Mahmud, officer in charge of foreign information in the Eritrean Popular Liberation Forces [EPLF], has denied reports on the dismissal of Osman Salih Sabe, chairman of the EPLF Executive Committee. He said that Osman is still the leader of the EPLF.

In his meeting with UAE Foreign Ministry Under Secretary 'Abd ar-Rahman al-Jaru in Abu Dhabi today, the Eritrean official said that the forces of the Eritrean revolution will fight a new round of battles against the Ethiopian forces, which are now facing a difficult situation as a result of the deteriorating economic situation in Ethiopia.

Ibrahim Mahmud said that a number of Ethiopian soldiers are fleeing to Sudan and Somalia to avoid military service and are surrendering to the Eritrean revolution.

YEMEN--YAR

PRESIDENT, PRIME MINISTER SPEAK AT MAY DAY RALLIES

JN011913 San'a' Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 1 May 79 JN

[Excerpts] President 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, president of the republic and commander in chief of the armed forces, today attended a large workers rally in Ta'izz on the occasion of May Day.

President 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih delivered the following speech: [begin recording]

Brother Yemeni workers everywhere: On the occasion of May Day and in accordance with our national policy and the principles of the Great 26 September Revolution, and on behalf of your brothers in the armed forces and security forces and in my name, I extend greetings and congratulations to all workers in every factory, mine and place of work. If it were not for your honest hands, there would be no hospitals, schools and factories, and there would be no prosperity and development.

Brother citizens and workers, work is the real test for nationalism. There is no place for outbiddings and personal ambitions at the expense of the country's independence and the citizens' rights. Through work, peoples can reach their goals and achieve victory over backwardness and corruption.

Free workers of Yemen, our celebration today provides proof of our determination and intention to further improve the workers' conditions, to establish workers unions based on nationalist and democratic bases, and to create broad opportunities for Yemeni expertise. However, our Yemeni workers must fulfill the great national duties and responsibilities by improving their capabilities and increasing production.

I invite all of you to further strengthen your solidarity, consolidate Yemeni unity and protect the Yemeni march so as to achieve prosperity and glory for our Yemeni people and our Arab nation. [end recording]

In San'a', Prime Minister 'Abd al-'Aziz 'Abd al-Ghani attended a large workers rally held at the Police College this morning. The rally was attended by the chief of staff of the armed forces, ministers and senior state officials.

Prime Minister 'Abd al-Ghani addressed the rally and said: [begin recording]

Great Yemeni workers, grandsons of those who have built large dams and buildings, Yemeni workers everywhere: I greet you in the name of the revolution and the republic.

We mark this occasion at an important time for our people and country. It is the time of continuous, devoted and serious efforts to reunite our people. The unity of Yemen is the most cherished goal of our people and represents a great task to which we are all devoting our efforts. We want to achieve this unity within the framework of establishing Arab unity. We are not celebrating this occasion today by holding ceremonies and delivering speeches, but by honoring the great accomplishments of our workers in various fields, and by increasing our efforts to accomplish more with the aim of improving the workers' conditions in appreciation of their efforts.

Brother Yemeni workers, we understand work by the continuous and rapid changes and developments in the revolution's society. We have destroyed the backwardness, slavery and humiliation of the previous regime forever. Thus, today's worker is devoting all his efforts to serving his developing society as well as his own interests. The May Day anniversary this year coincides with continuous and active development and with the construction march throughout the country.

Today we will open new projects throughout the republic. We will open schools, inaugurate new paved roads, open power and water networks and open new hospitals. This is in line with the 5-year development plan which aims at developing our society. President 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih will also open today the first stage of the television station which will cover the entire republic.

Despite all these great accomplishments, we stress the need for further concentrated efforts and work. Workers in our country, as in all countries, form the framework and cornerstone for all societies. Our workers must increase their practical and technical training by attending various schools, institutes and technical centers so they can acquire advanced experience and training.

Let us try harder by further consolidating our ranks and efforts and by working together under the wise leadership of Lt Col 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, president of the republic and commander in chief of the armed forces. Our people have accomplished much and will continue to be prepared to give more and double their efforts so as to achieve a better future for our homeland. [end recording]

AS-SADAT SPEAKS ON MAY DAY; DISCUSSES SAUDI ARABIA

NC011355 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1103 GMT 1 May 79 NC

[Speech delivered by President Anwar as-Sadat in Safajah, on the Red Sea, on the occasion of May Day--live]

[Text] In the name of God. [cheers and applause] In the name of God. Brothers and sisters. In the name of God. Brothers and sisters, my sons and daughters: I came to you here in Safajah to celebrate Workers Day together. Workers Day, the day of freedom and the day of free men, is the day of all Egypt.

Workers Day this year coincides with Egypt's celebrating the hoisting of the banners of sovereignty and freedom on every inch of our territory.

I came to you, brothers and sisters, sons and daughters, to assert that every part of Egypt's soil is a part of our hearts and that every male and female citizen in the land of Egypt--in the villages and hamlets, in the deserts and in the mountains, whether nomads in the desert or town dwellers--every male and female citizen all over Egypt are the masters of their land and sons of the noble Egyptian people, who are building, developing, civilizing and spreading the message of light. All of us on the land of Sinai, in Matruh, in Siwah, in Al-Wahat, in the upper Nile, in Safajah, in Alexandria--all of us are the sons of Egypt, the sons of the one Egyptian family on our land. [applause and cheers]

Brothers and sisters, my sons and daughters: Our honor is the honor of Egypt. Our Egypt is what it is today, what it will be tomorrow. Egypt is our destiny.

If our armed forces had accomplished a military miracle when they stormed the Bar-Lev fortifications, the hands of the heroes and the daring of the workers protected their backs when they built the biggest fortified air base, when they manufactured 60 percent of the crossing bridges, when they produced the weapons and ammunition, and when they built the biggest missile bases under the hardest conditions any people can tolerate. The workers did all this to protect the backs of their armed forces. Some of them were martyred but the rest were competing to die, to build the biggest shield of missile bases, which protected our land, our homes and our skies. All this was done with the hands of our workers. [applause]

Brothers and sisters: Many events have taken place since I met with you last year. You will remember how the peace initiative was stumbling when we were celebrating Labor Day in Shubra al-Khaymah on 1 May last year. You will also remember that I explained why the 23 July revolution broke out and what it wanted to destroy, chiefly the party corruption. You will remember that I frankly explained the real situation to the workers of Egypt on that day--1 year ago--regarding the peace initiative and our clear line concerning it and also regarding the internal activities. A very small minority wanted then to exploit the granting of freedom, closing of the detention camps and the implementation of supremacy of law and democracy to return the country to the pre-23 July revolution era and mainly to party corruption, which prevailed in the country prior to the 23 July revolution.

I spoke to you, workers of Egypt, last year. After speaking to you, I went to the People's Assembly on 14 May--the day of the People's Assembly.

This is the day when the People's Assembly dismissed all agents of the centers of power, led by the assembly's elected speaker, and canceled their membership in accordance with an initiative by the People's Assembly itself. I say that I went to the People's Assembly 14 days after meeting with you. I explained the internal political situation. After this, I went back to the people and called for a plebiscite so that the people may frankly express their opinion in the democratic march in our country. This march must always be devoid of corruption, opportunism and all the methods of the past when this people's will was represented by the 5 percent who lived in Cairo and ruled Egypt from there.

I went back to the people, as you recall. This was the first event which took place after I spoke to you on 1 May last year. Many other events have taken place since then. The first event was that I went back to the people who clearly expressed their opinion in a public referendum about our democratic march to provide security and safety and enable the classes, foremost the peasants and workers, who were deprived of all rights in the past, to enjoy these rights. The people willed that there is no place in our land and in our march for those who corrupted political life before the 23 July revolution and who monopolized everything and deprived the people, represented in their broad base, in every way. Sometimes they cooperated with the imperialists and at other times with the king to subdue this people.

The peoples expressed their opinion that those who corrupted the political life will not join our democratic march. They are our sons living within the Egyptian family, but we will not allow them to assume leading posts in our present march. They should be happy that they have not been killed, hanged or crucified--as is happening now in other countries--as punishment for their deeds. They should be happy that they are living under the protection of the noble broad base of the people--the workers and the peasants. [applause]

The people of Egypt, represented by their broad base, appreciate values, ethics and commitment. Therefore, they are among the sons of the family, but let them keep within their bounds. Our country will never again become a theater for the pashas, feudalists and all opportunists who want to impose systems on the people that are alien to their nature, land and roots.

The people discarded the first faction in the first event that took place after I met with you last May. At the plebiscite last May, the people declared that they would not accept that any leading posts in the democratic march be occupied by those who corrupted the political life before 23 July and coerced the people when the secretary of the British Embassy ruled. The people have discarded them as well as the atheist communists. The people have spoken. They said that these factions will not occupy leading posts in our democratic march. We refuse to return to any dictatorship--the parties dictatorship, which prevailed before the 23 July revolution; the proletariat dictatorship, which the communists advocate; or class dictatorship. We will proceed with our democratic march with the broad base of the people--workers and peasants. We will not allow any application of imported systems that conflict with this country's soil, values, faith, firmness and tolerance.

At the plebiscite, which was held last May after I met with you and returned to the people, the people expressed their opinion and rejected the leaderships of the party corruption, which reigned before 23 July. They refused to allow communists to occupy leading posts in the march because we reject the principles and theories conflicting with our upbringing of fraternity, faith, tolerance and values on this country's soil. The people also rejected a third group: Those who corrupted life after the 23 July revolution and who formed the so-called centers of power at the time. The people discarded them.

The people discarded these leaderships at the plebiscite, which took place last May after I met with you. They discarded the leaders of party corruption, of communism and of the attempts to impose the dictatorship of a certain class. We reject in the same way the dictatorship of the proletariat. We also reject with the same strength the dictatorship of the 5 percent or of any new class that attempts to impose a dictatorship on this country.

The country and the people have rejected dictatorship. By their democratic march the people rejected the leaderships of party corruption before the 23 July revolution. The people rejected communist leaderships in leading the march. The people rejected those who corrupted political life after the 23 July revolution, the so-called centers of power and every person who harmed or contributed toward harming the dignity of the Egyptian man by torture or by any other measures.

The people rejected a fourth group, namely the opportunists who imagined that they had the right of trusteeship over this country under any pretext.

After I met with you last May, the first event to take place in the course of our internal march was the referendum in which the people clearly and frankly said: We reject in our democratic march those who corrupted party life before the 23 July revolution, the communists who corrupted affairs after the 23 July revolution and the opportunists who sometimes hid behind progressive slogans and at other times behind Nasirite slogans and all colors just to impose their trusteeship on this country. The people said it clearly last May after I met with you. On the domestic scene it has been an eventful year since I met with you last year in Shubra al-Khaymah. The second event on the domestic scene was the establishment of the National Democratic Party [NDP]. [applause] As you know, I never wanted to go out into the streets of politics, being content with my position as head of the Egyptian family. As I told you before, I am most proud of and happy about this position. It is not my post as president of the republic and leader of the NDP that pleases me most, but rather to remain always the head of the Egyptian family. This is all I want. [applause]

Why did I start the formation of the NDP? As I told you, last May I addressed your fellow workers in Shubra al-Khaymah. Some elements rejected by the people in the referendum began to be active in the country. They were party leaderships before the 23 July revolution who had corrupted political life. They began to imagine that the country could once again turn back and that the concept of 50 percent representation for the workers and peasants did not exist in any other country. They wanted to return the country to the 5 percent of the upper class which ruled the country and to return us all to what we were before the 23 July revolution. We rejected this.

Then the communists began to be active. This was indeed regrettable. Why? Because this was connected with our ethics in Egypt. First of all I must declare before you that no ruler or any person can control the minds of others. This means that no person, however powerful he may be, can prevent any other person from believing in whatever culture and principles he desires. The disgrace comes when some persons in Egypt believe in imported principles. They do not want to keep such principles for themselves but want to impose them on the people. This is proletariat dictatorship. Moreover, and this is also sad, every time Russia utters a word it must be right and Egypt wrong. Russia has been antagonizing us every way it can since the beginning of the peace process. For 5 years already it has imposed an embargo on us. It has banned the supply of arms and spare parts and has refused the rescheduling of debts. For 5 years Radio Moscow has been attacking us daily. Would it be right or in accordance with Egypt's ethics for a person to repeat Russia's words attacking us in our own country and on our own land and soil?

Perhaps you saw what happened when full democracy was allowed to be established for the first time in Egypt's history and how parties were allowed to publish newspapers without going through procedures.

Before 23 July 1952, a party which wanted to publish a newspaper had to have its application examined by the publications department and the interior minister and to go around every place in the country, unless, of course, it was the ruling party.

No, this time we said there will be democracy and the party which obtains a license for its establishment from the party committee as stipulated in the law and the constitution can publish its own newspaper.

Perhaps you have read some of what was written in the newspaper AL-AHALI issued by the National Progressive Unionist Grouping Party. By God, had all the enemies of Egypt hired some people to write about and attack Egypt, the outcome would have been less evil than what some Egyptians, regrettably, have written in the newspaper AL-AHALI.

Why did I form the National Democratic Party? Was it because I needed a majority? Not at all. I have the people with me, thank God. All of you are behind me and with you I am stronger than anyone else. [applause] I did not form a party in order to create a majority with which I would be able to rule.

As I said, thank God, I am proud and happy that I am living in the conscience of each one of you and all of you are living in my conscience. This is enough for me. [applause] However, I cannot allow under any circumstances the return of the pre-23 July corruption or the return of those Egyptians who are stabbing Egypt in its back because Moscow Radio wants this or because the Soviet Union wants this.

I also formed the party because of the third category, which wants to return Egypt to the era of custodianships. I closed the detention camps 8 years ago. As God Almighty has wished, all the fateful steps in the life of Egypt were taken during my meeting with the workers of Egypt.

You recall that the first time I met with you was on 1 May 1971 following my election. In that year I eliminated the centers of power and closed the political detention camps for good.

I formed the National Democratic Party in order to save the country and stop those whose ambitions, whims and selfish motives made them imagine that they could impose a certain system on this country as existed in the past--detention camps, custodianships and distribution of poverty, which ended in the poor becoming poorer instead of improving their standard of living.

This has been the second basic step since my meeting with you last year. The third step was the Camp David agreement in September 1978.

As I told you last May, Israel was putting obstacles in the path of the peace initiative. We remained in a tug-of-war for 10 months following the initiative until the Camp David meeting took place at the invitation of President Carter, who invited me and Menahem Begin. [applause]

I want to tell you something about this invitation from President Carter. We are a people who remember with gratitude. We are a noble people who know ethics and what shame means, unlike the others. We know what shame means and we know ethics.

The initiative President Carter made last September in inviting me and Begin without there being any guarantee represented a great risk for Carter. What spurred him into making the initiative was his sincerity, loyalty, desire and insistance on solving the Middle East problem and upholding right and justice. [applause] There was a great possibility that had the Camp David meeting failed last September the inevitable consequence would have been the end of Carter's career as a politician. However, the man took the risk. I thank Almighty God that the matter was worth it because we achieved the Camp David agreement.

At Camp David, before I returned from the United States, I was surprised by all the Arabs raising a din. The Camp David agreement had not been announced yet. Did we reach an agreement at Camp David solving the whole issue? No. Did we conclude a treaty? No. At Camp David, we worked out a framework. We called it a framework in the sense that we were telling the Arabs that a comprehensive settlement between the Arabs and Israel can be based on certain points and that a settlement between Egypt and Israel can be based on certain points. We reached two agreements: one for the Arabs on the basis of which they would regain their land and the other concerning us and Israel.

Before even reading the agreements, all the Arabs issued statements attacking Egypt. It was really a regrettable and embarrassing situation. Wait until you have read the contents of the agreement. Some said that it was a treaty but it did not solve the problem. But it was neither a treaty nor a final solution. We said that it was a framework--a framework in the sense that for the first time in the history of the 30-year Arab-Israeli conflict, we were drawing up certain points for every Arab state wishing to solve its problem and regain its territory. We worked out the points and made Israel sign them. Yet, the Arabs came out with statements saying: Alas, the Camp David agreement has not restored Jerusalem to us nor has it established a Palestinian state.

But should not the people concerned sit down with Israel to talk on the basis of the points we had worked out? Instead, the Arabs, as usual during the past 30 years, meet at any place--their last meeting was in Baghdad--and then say that either Israel hands over to us Jerusalem, Gaza and the West Bank as a Palestinian state and the Golan or we will not negotiate with Israel. But this is what Israel really wants. It is the best thing for it. Israel is now saying: You people have an issue to settle with me: The Palestinians have the West Bank and Gaza sector issue, the Syrians have the Golan issue and Egypt has the Sinai issue.

The Arabs made statements in Baghdad recently and adopted stands lately. I will talk to you about the latest thing which took place during the past year so that, through you, the workers of Egypt may hear it.

It would have been the easiest thing for me to respond to what they had been saying. I would sit in Cairo and say: Israel, you either hand Sinai, the Golan, the West Bank, Gaza and Jerusalem over to me or I will not talk with you or sit with you--just as they had been saying. Israel would have welcomed this very much. It would have said: It is fine by me if you do not want to come; everything will remain as it is. That is what has been happening. The Western world, or the civilized world, was laughing at us. Why? Because when you have a case to settle with anyone, would you just let it go or sit down and talk about it with the side concerned? We, however, say: No.

One group says that the United States should solve the issue for us and another group says that the Soviets should solve it for us. But neither the United States nor the Soviet Union can solve it. Why? Because I am the owner of the land. If I were not to seek my land and my right Israel would not care about me. This is what is happening.

The happiest and most splendid thing for Israel's hawks, who are opposed to the Camp David agreement and to the treaty with Egypt, is the Arab position taken at Baghdad. The happiest thing for them is for the Arabs to tell them: either Jerusalem, the West Bank, Gaza and the Golan, or we will not talk to you. Well, the Israelis would say: You have not come to talk to us. You are 1,000 miles away and you say: Either these things or nothing. Fine. Nothing. This is no problem. Talk like this and weaken your argument.

They came after Camp David and said: Camp David did not bring us the Golan, the Palestinian state or Jerusalem. I did not say that Camp David was the final solution, and I did not even say that Camp David is a final agreement; I said that it was a framework. The agreement is called a "framework" only. On the basis of it, we sat with Israel and we concluded the Egyptian-Israeli treaty. Syria was supposed to come and conclude the Syrian-Israeli treaty because the Golan belongs to it. I was prepared to talk on behalf of the Golan. But no. Let these dirty 'Alawites speak for it. These are people who have lost all meaning of life. By God, let them face their people in Syria and let them solve it. We shall see what they will achieve.

I could have brought them the Golan, but I am not responsible for the Golan while the 'Alawites are in power. But I am responsible for placing the Palestinians on the sound course. Why? Because the Golan has an owner called Syria; Sinai has an owner called Egypt but the PLO cannot claim to own the West Bank and the Gaza Strip. Why? There are 2 organizations affiliated in the PLO, and each one accuses the other of treason.

According to the treaty we concluded, I am the owner of Sinai. Furthermore, I am the owner of the West Bank and Gaza. Why, because these pitiful territories have no owner. I say this again in the hearing of all the Arabs and of the women of the West Bank and Gaza. When I was praying the 'id in the Al-Aqsa Mosque and when I went to the Dome of the Rock, the Palestinian women of the West Bank came to me and told me: They are trading on us. No one has shown interest in us for 10 years. They are trading on us and profiting. Our sons are in prisons; our sons are in detention camps. They told me all these things at the Dome of the Rock as I was performing the 'id prayers in Jerusalem.

I cannot disavow this cause. Why? In the final analysis, I will see what the 'Alawites will do for the Golan. We all know who the 'Alawites are in the eyes of the Syrian people. The Syrian people will deal with them. Afterward, things will be different.

However, and when it comes to the West Bank and Gaza, I regret to say that I will not disown them. Why? Because this is the number one Arab cause; it affects us all as Arabs. This cause does not affect only Palestine; it affects us all.

I was holding talks at Camp David. Regrettably, our Arab brothers can never face up to responsibility. I was in the office with Carter and Begin. Speaking emotionally, I told him in the presence of Carter: Mr Begin: Neither you, I, King Husayn nor the United States, nor any one of us when it comes to that, has the power to determine the fate of the Palestinians without their presence and consent. They are the ones who determine their own fate. He agreed on this statement. However, he told me: May I ask just one question? That was Begin.

This is the first time I said this in public and Carter and Begin witnessed it. He told me: I have a question to ask. I said: What? He asked me why I was so enthusiastic and exalted. He asked: Why are you saying that the Palestinian state should be established from the West Bank and Gaza?

Our Arab brothers, led by the rejection front, and our Saudi brothers after Faysal are squandering whatever assets they have had with us.

I know that our people will be sad when they hear about the role of Saudi Arabia and the role of the rulers of Saudi Arabia in the process of severing relations. But you all know that I pledged to you to bring all the facts before you. It is not a question of ruler and ruled today. It is the question of all of us, because whoever lives on the land of Egypt--male or female citizens--today has the right to shape the Egyptian decision. Egypt is no longer ruled from Cairo. Not at all. Every governor has the powers of the president of the republic, and can act with full authority with the approval of the citizens of the governorate and the owners of the land in it. They can do what they like and adopt whatever decision they wish to adopt.

Since our meeting last May we held the referendum I spoke to you about; the National Democratic Party of which I spoke to you about was established; and Camp David of which I talked to you about took place.

At the beginning of this year, on 1 January--Camp David took place in September, but we returned to the domestic situation on 1 January--I issued a decree delegating the powers of the president of the republic to every governor. Why? In order to solve the problems of the people in the governorate. I asked the governors not to go back to Cairo for anything that could be solved by the governorates. Otherwise, the governor would be negligent. All the problems of the people must be solved in the governorate. Why? Because this is part of our basic democracy which we must complete.

Before I went to sign the agreement in March, you will remember, I said that when I go back I will complete the 15 May revolution. The first and basic part in dealing with the domestic situation was delegating the powers of the president of the republic to the governors at the beginning of January. Within the boundaries of the governorate and through every governorate's people you can do what you like. You have heard me speak to your brothers in the canal governorates and ask them to take ownership of the land, cultivate it and build their houses. I want every male and female Egyptian to have a piece of property in Egypt which he can cultivate and live on.

This was at the beginning of January. In March, President Carter made his initiative of coming to the region. Perhaps you have heard me tell the story. Begin was in Washington, talking on television and making speeches daily. This was about 15 March. Begin was making attacks. He was attacking the process which took place in the 10 months between the initiative and Camp David. Begin was trying to interpret the Camp David agreements as he liked. When I saw how things were going, and that he was there and I was here in Cairo, I contacted the U.S. President. No. I summoned the U.S. ambassador. When he came to see me, I told him to write the U.S. President a message. It was Sunday. I sent him a message saying: Today is Sunday. The day after tomorrow, Tuesday, I am coming to the United States. Whether invited or not I am coming Tuesday, by God. Even the U.S. ambassador was surprised. I told him to write this: Whether invited or not I am coming. Why? Begin was there talking and alone in the field. This is my issue; this is my land; the Palestinian issue is my issue. It affects the future of the whole Arab nation. It is now in the hands of the small ones toying with it. No. I said: I am going. This was at noon on Sunday. In the evening the U.S. President called me. I said: Have you received my message? He said: Yes. I told him: Good. I am coming to you; I am not going to wait for an invitation. I am coming. He said: No. I am coming to you. [applause]

He is a man of honor and ethics who advocates human rights. The U.S. President took a risk this time greater than Camp David, because we were his visitors at Camp David.

Were he to come and visit us and visit Israel and nothing happened, this would have definitely meant his destruction and that of the United States as the strongest power and greatest state in the world. It would have meant his personal destruction and that of his country and its reputation.

The man took a risk and came and we agreed to sign in Washington. I went to Washington on 26 March, as you all know, and signed. What did we sign? We signed a two-part agreement. According to the first part, we will take over, God willing, three-quarters of the area in Sinai extending from Al-'Arish to Ra's Muhammad by next December. The remaining one-quarter will remain [in the hands of the Israelis] until they transfer their settlements and airports. The two of us will then fix the date for handing over this area. You know that the Knesset has approved this. It has also agreed that the settlements should be removed. Nothing will remain to tarnish the land of Egypt or the international borders.

We will regain control of three-quarters of Sinai by December. This is a happy occasion to implore God to prolong our life so that we may go and celebrate 1 May next year there. [applause]

We agreed to sign. I signed and then returned from Washington. The rejectionist front began its maneuvers. We know the rejectionist front. The attitude of Syria--it is not right to say Syria because the Syrian people are powerless in this--the attitude of the 'Alawites is known. It is an attitude of hatred, bitterness, inability and ignorance. The attitude of the Iraqis is worse. All of you know the foolish child of Libya. These are the ones who constitute the rejectionist front. I am not including South Yemen because it is not worth wasting time on. Nor am I including Algeria, because since Boumediene's death, Algeria has not assumed the role it took during his lifetime. The main parties to the rejectionist front are the 'Alawites of Syria, the Tikritis of Iraq, and Libya. I was surprised to see Saudi Arabia becoming involved.

We know the role which Saudi Arabia played at the first Baghdad conference after Camp David. I understand this role. They said at the Baghdad conference that we were compelled to do what we did. Why? Let me announce the real date. This is enough. I visited Faysal on 27 August 1973, 5 weeks before the war. I visit Faysal in Jidda on 27 August 1973. I visited him on my way to Syria. Syria was not ready for the unified command we formed until 29 August. The Syrian leaders had met in Alexandria and were preparing to receive me in Syria. To give them enough time, I told them that it was necessary for me to visit Faysal because he, God bless his soul, was a committed and honest man and a brother in joy and affliction. This is our experience with Saudi Arabia.

I went to Faysal. We sat together alone as usual. He asked me what was bothering me. I said that I was coming to tell him that I was going to enter the battle. I did not tell him the date. I only said that I had decided to enter the battle. The battle took place 5 weeks later. Faysal began to think. He was not talkative. He then asked me who would be entering the battle with me. I said: Hafiz al-Asad. Faysal is dead but I want our brothers in Saudi Arabia to hear this. Whether or not they believe it, this is history we are recording. Faysal answered me: I am not trying to cast any doubts. I am eager to preserve Egypt and to protect you--first the people of Egypt and then you. Faysal told me that Hafiz al-Asad is 'Alawite and Ba'thist, and one is more evil than the other.

Faysal spoke very little. He would not speak before people. At the same meeting, Faysal also asked me: How can you hold hands with the Syrian Ba'thists?

Al-Asad is an 'Alawite and Ba'thist; one is more evil than the other. I said: By God, brother Faysal, we agreed in April 1973 when Hafiz al-Asad came to me in Burj al-'Arab. I had told Hafiz al-Asad then that our only witness was God as we were alone in Burj al-'Arab. I said: This year, 1973, I will enter the battle, God willing. I am not saying this to embarass you. If you are not ready, you should realize that I am not entering the battle in order to embarrass you but I am determined to enter the battle in 1973. That was in April. He said: I am prepared and will enter the battle with you. In fact Al-Asad went along with me since April. For 30 minutes Faysal attempted to dissuade me. Faysal told me that the operation concerned the people of Egypt and myself. He added that the people of Egypt and myself must not expose ourselves to danger. I told Faysal that I had total self-confidence. He said: Very well. If you are not confident that you can make the battle last for 1 or 2 weeks you had better not enter the battle. Why? Because we could not create an Arab stand for at least a week.

Why? None of the Arabs believed that we could confront Israel in war. That was clear. Not only the Arabs but no one in the world could predict that we could last 1 hour in the face of Israel.

Faysal was concerned about Egypt, the people and about me as a personal friend. The man told me that if the cease-fire was to come after 1 or 2 hours or after 1 or 2 days it would be better not to begin the battle. Why? Because we would not be able to form an Arab stand. The Arabs wanted something solid to feel that the war was on. I told Faysal that I had already prepared myself for this. Faysal said: As far as I am concerned, what is it that you want from me? I told Faysal: This is a battle of destiny in the life of the Arab nation. I will take care of the military battle and you should choose your role in the battle because it is a battle of destiny of the Arab nation. Faysal tried to dissuade me. I said that I was determined in my decision and he could adopt his. Our agreement was the principle upon which we built an Arab family which entered the battle for the first time and became the world's sixth power. We had a proverb which says: The head of the house knows best what is in the house. It meant I would not ask him for something he would not be able to meet nor would he ask me for something I might not be able to do. Simply, we would agree on the principles and neither one of us would interfere in the other's affairs but we would be complementing one another and our strength would be consolidated. This was the basis of my dealing with Faysal: The head of the house knows best what is in it.

Something ridiculous happened when I came back from the signing ceremony. Saudi Arabia, the rulers of Saudi Arabia, were preparing the whole Arab nation to break off relations with Egypt. King Faysal, God bless his soul, had an opinion of Hafiz al-Asad. Every member of the Saudi family knows what Faysal said: No one of them claims that Faysal did not say it. While we were in Algiers, in November 1973--after the October War--Faysal said at the top of his voice in my presence and the presence of Boumediene that the Golan had been sold. This is known. I inquired why. Hafiz al-Asad was with us, and Hafiz al-Asad was the defense minister when the Golan was sold. Why is the story of the Golan so strange? Because it is a plateau, 2,000 meters high. If 100 or 1,000 tanks went up, one could throw a brick at them and they would fall. No. The mines were removed 2 days before. The fortifications on the Golan Heights were evacuated. An army could fight from these fortifications for years. They announced the fall of Al-Qunaytirah 19 hours before it was captured. What did they do? They later tried and executed those who announced the fall of Al-Qunaytirah 19 hours before the actual fall, a clear thing. Faysal in Algiers--after the 1973 battle and in the presence of Hafiz al-Asad--said at the top of his voice: The Golan has been sold. At that time Golda Meir stated this, and no one answered her. It is clear: This could not have happened unless Golan was sold.

Well, does the Saudi royal family not know that this was Faysal's opinion of the 'Alawites and the Ba'th Party? Does the Saudi royal family not know that Faysal, on every occasion and to Hafiz al-Asad personally, said: You have sold the Golan. Are not these the same Saudis who are today going after the Arab states to break off their relations with Egypt? The Arabs who, out of courtesy, broke off their relations with us and the others who received money informed me that it was Saudi Arabia which was behind it. For whose benefit is Saudi Arabia doing this? Is it for the benefit of the 'Alawites in Syria? Is it for the benefit of the Takriti family in Iraq, who are attacking and threatening to occupy Kuwait? Is it for the benefit of the mad boy of Libya? These are the one's who constitute the front. Is it for the benefit of the Soviet Union? The only country which applauded the severing of relations with Egypt was the Soviet Union--the Soviet Union, Syria, Iraq and Libya. It is a strange situation. It is a strange situation. Saudi Arabia wants to assume the leadership of the Arab nation. We tried to analyze the situation. Why is Saudi Arabia doing this? The severance of relations in itself has no significance. For your information, the aid we receive from the Arabs amounts to $500 million. This is called the Rabat aid. We also receive $60 or $70 million for the Suez Canal allocated by the Khartoum conference. This is the whole matter. It is a matter of 300 million pounds sterling, or something like that. It is no problem. We will collect this amount from one project.

When we get our oil back next October, God willing, there will be much. God willing, we will be producing 1 million barrels of oil by 1982. By that time we will have agricultural projects and so forth. All this is part of our program. The severance of relations does not bother me. No. I treat them as the heirs of Faysal. This is what angers me. The severance of relations is worth nothing. Why are the people in Saudi Arabia doing this? The Egyptian people are surely going to be as sad as I am, because our relations with Saudi Arabia have always been different from our relations with others--except Sudan, of course. We and Sudan are family. Saudi Arabia has a special status. The Egyptians are definitely going to be unhappy. There is one of three reasons or all together. The first is that they have been threatened by Husayn at-Tikriti of Iraq and the 'Alawites of the Ba'th Party in Syria and the Palestinians. This has actually happened. Does this mean that Saudi Arabia and the heirs of Faysal should make themselves tools of Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, the Syrian 'Alawites, the Iraqi Tikritis and the Soviet Union? Pressure was exerted on them and they were threatened. At the Baghdad conference, the Syrian president told them: I will transfer the battle to your bedrooms. Regrettably, they were not angry. They should have revolted for the sake of their dignity. They should have put him in his place. They were afraid. This is fear.

The second, and this too has a basis, is that they want to tell the United States that Saudi Arabia is the leader of the Arab nation. They want to tell the United States we have made all Arab states sever their relations with Egypt. Well, what have I got to do with what goes on between them and the United States? They are angry with the United States because it has abandoned the shah of Iran and might abandon them. This is a fact which they do not deny. Well, what have I got to do with all this? Furthermore, most of the Arab countries severed their relations out of courtesy for you, and you know this. The other countries were paid a price for doing this. What strength is Saudi Arabia exhibiting to the United States by doing this? This is stupid. The United States knows why one group and why the other group have severed their relations. All of us in the Arab world know. Those who severed their relations out of courtesy and those who were paid to do so have been in contact with me. It is known that this is a matter of courtesy. This is evident. Where is the strength in this? I would like to ask: Will this make Saudi Arabia strong in the eyes of the United States and the world? Here is another question: Suppose Iraq were to attack Kuwait tomorrow. What position would Saudi Arabia adopt? What would the new leaders of the Arab nation do?

Saddam Husayn has threatened the Kuwaitis and told them to stop all aid to Oman, which is supporting us. He told them not to be ignorant. They made Kuwait cut its aid because Saddam threatened to occupy it. Can Saudi Arabia defend Kuwait? They must pay a very high price for the process of severing the relations. They will not pay money, as usual. We do not expect any money from them. I am treating them as the heirs of Faysal. As people, we have our ethics and we are loyal. For the sake of Faysal, we might forget--but not everything. Everyone must know his size. [applause]

Why did I choose to speak about Saudi Arabia alone? The truth is that I had to tell you the story about Saudi Arabia. I do not like facts to remain secret. It is Saudi Arabia which carried out the entire role with Morocco and others. We have something to say about Morocco but not right now. I am now addressing Saudi Arabia, which dragged those behind it either out of courtesy or through payment. I have news about those who went along with Saudi Arabia either out of courtesy or in return for payment. I will tell you this news so that you and all of them may hear it. I will not speak about Morocco. We thank God that conditions made it necessary that everybody should reveal his true nature. We stand to lose nothing. We have lost nothing and stand to lose nothing from the severance of the relations. The Rabat summit support amounts to 500 million pounds. The Khartoum summit provided for arms supplies. After agreeing to finance the F-5 aircraft deal, Saudi Arabia went back on its word. A person may expect anything from them after what they did.

The word of Faysal, for example, was bible. Three months before the battle, I planned to store supplies. Why? It is because I assumed that the battle would last 2 to 6 months. I started buying reserve supplies to provide the basic commodities for the popular base. I needed 20 million pounds. Al-Qadhdhafi told me: I will send you 20 million pounds. However, I heard no more about this. Two months before the battle, I sent word telling him I needed the reserve supplies. These supplies should have reached me 3 months before the battle but they had not arrived even 2 months before the battle.

Who visited me at the time? Faysal visited me in Cairo and then left for Switzerland. When he was here he asked me if I needed anything. I answered no. Why? Because Al-Qadhdhafi had told me that he would supply the reserve commodities. After Faysal left, I found out that Al-Qadhdhafi was procrastinating. I then immediately sent an envoy to Faysal, may God bless his soul, who was in Switzerland. Simply speaking, Faysal told my envoy: Go to As-Sadat and tell him to conclude the necessary agreement. Faysal was then the prime minister as well. He also told the envoy: I will return after 1 month and will send the 20 million pounds.

Tell As-Sadat to sign the contract; his word was indeed bible to me. I told them sign a contract for 20 million pounds immediately. For over 1 and 1/2 months, supplies began reaching us before the battle. Our stores were filled with oil, sugar and so on.

When he returned a month later, I did not send word to him again. However, one day I was indeed surprised when a 25-million-pound-sterling draft in favor of the government was sent to the central bank. The sum was not 20 million, but 25 million. [applause] He sent them as a draft in favor of the government. I had signed a contract for 20 million; no, he sent 25 million, while I had not sent word to him again. To be honest, I say that Saudi Arabia had a place in the sun under Faysal. However, these people are losing this place.

This is not all Faysal did. Faysal concluded a helicopter deal and presented them as a gift to Egypt. There were 30 military helicopters.

Faysal made a pledge once. I relate this incident so we can appreciate the value of this human being. What did he do? I was scheduled to go to the Soviet Union on 11 and 12 October 1971--and the Soviets had then made my head turn. He knew, and it had been earlier announced in the press that I would meet with the Soviet leaders on 11 and 12 October. On the night of 10 October, I received a telegram. Faysal had not spoken to me. I received a cable from Faysal in which he addressed me as brother Anwar.

Faysal had British-built jet bombers; that was the model which Saudi Arabia then had. You know, the Soviets turned our heads with talk about long-range planes and so on. I did not contact Faysal, but he read reports that I was going to the Soviet Union. He also knew what was going on between me and the Soviet Union. I was surprised by a night cable on 10 October. I was scheduled to travel the next morning. In the cable, Faysal tells me: I have decided to send you 20 of my British bombers. There was not a single word more. Any ordinary person unfamiliar with Faysal would take this as a routine matter. In other words, it is something usual for Faysal to send me the planes; this is all. Faysal's intention was to make me tell the Soviets: Get moving--and this is what happened. When I went I told them: For your information, King Faysal has decided to send me 20 British bombers. By God, it was as if the Soviets had been bitten by a snake; that is, the three of them. There was Podgornyy, Brezhnev and Kosygin. They were about to burst with anger. They told me: How can you accept this? I told them: How can I accept this? He is my brother in the Arab nation and my partner. Furthermore, you do not want to give me planes.

For your information, these planes were not sent. Why? Faysal sent me this [presumably a telegram]. However, he did not send these planes. Do you know what he did? Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi withdrew the 25 Mirage planes--and he made me suffer considerably until he sent them. He left half of them without spare parts. I brought money from Faysal with which I bought spare parts for the Libyan planes. Well, this is ridiculous. I brought money from Faysal of Saudi Arabia with which I bought spare parts for the Libyan planes of Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi. When Al-Qadhdhafi asked for his planes, Faysal did not send the 20 obsolete British planes. No; He purchased 36 brand new Mirage planes for Egypt. [applause] My sons, the pilots, now have these planes and they fly them. These planes are now part of Egypt's forces. They compensated for part of Egypt's losses. This is because, as you are aware, the Soviet Union refused to compensate me for anything. Faysal did this and even more. (?This is what he did.)

When it comes to this group of our brothers, well, they bought for us missiles from France. They bought for us deals from England. At this time, they have paid for the F-5 planes for us. However, I do not know what will happen after this step. This is because I cannot figure out the standards of these people. I knew Faysal's standards. However, when it comes to these people, this is never the case. Only God knows what they will do. However, it is imperative for them to know. The purchase of F-5 planes, the missiles they bought for us from France, or all the other things which they have bought and sent to me constitute one thing; and interference in Egypt's affairs constitutes something else. This is a shame; this is a big shame. It is even shameful that I should call their attention to this fact. This is particularly true because they have chosen a very surprising time to do it.

The result of the referendum was that 5,000 out of 40 million said no to the treaty--5,000 voters rejected the treaty out of a total of 10 million voters of a population of 40 million. The 10 million are the citizens who have the right to vote in Egypt; they are the registered voters. All of them voted yes in the name of Egypt, in the name of 40 million, except 5,000 who said they did not approve of the treaty. This was the result of the referendum.

On the following day, Saudi Arabia severed relations, saying: We sever relations but not with the Egyptian people. Do they mean that they are severing relations with me? Fine. But they are not a match to such a tune. Such things were said by the big powers. When Dulles wanted to drive a wedge between the people and 'Abd an-Nasir during the days of the high dam, he issued a statement on 19 July in which he said: People of Egypt, you cannot build the high dam because your economy is in ruins. Get rid of 'Abd an-Nasir and we will build the dam for you. These are Dulles' words.

The Saudis are not repeating the same thing. They are saying: People of Egypt, we will look after you. There is a lot of talk. It is shameful. It is shameful that such statements are made by people who are no match for them.

However, Faysal and I used to always say that the head of the house knows best what is in it. They talk about the people of Egypt. We too can talk about the Saudi people. It is shameful. But for the sake of Faysal, we will not talk. We will not embark on a campaign in the press like the campaign of ribaldry and filthiness launched in the Riyadh press. During the days of Faysal, the Saudi Kingdom was an example of values and knowing the meaning of shame. Even when others abused him, he did not abuse them.

This time, the shameful acts started in Riyadh. We did not abuse anyone in our press. We sent word to the Riyadh press, saying: Is it not a shame? Faysal did not accustom you to this. We later learned that our brother rulers in Saudi Arabia have instructed the press to attack Egypt so that when we reply, they would have a justification to sever relations. But why didn't they sever relations in a straightforward manner? If you want to be leaders of an Arab nation, you should sever relations in a straightforward manner. If you want to show the United States that you are strong and leaders because you do not like the United States' behavior toward the shah of Iran, what has Egypt got to do with this? Moreover, the severance of relations with Egypt by some through courtesy toward you and by others through payments will not give you strength.

I would like to tell our brothers who, together with Saudi Arabia, broke off their relations out of courtesy or in return for money, that Egypt will not go broke. We will go ahead with peace, God willing [applause]. We will go ahead in normalizing relations with Israel after the first stage [of withdrawl], in which more than 75 percent of Sinai will be returned and during which we will complete the negotiations on the West Bank and Gaza. Yes. We will normalize relations. I reassure the Israelis so they will understand that we do not say one thing and mean something else. We are not afraid. We do not do things like the small ones--say one thing behind closed doors and something else in front of the microphone. We will normalize our realtions with Israel. We will bring back the rights of Palestine. We will not be traitors like 'Abdallah [former Jordanian king] and sell the West Bank. No.

Let our brothers who followed the footsteps of Saudi Arabia in breaking off their relations understand that there is no going back. What Saudi Arabia has involved them in will be of no consequence. The peace march will continue, God willing, because peace is the desire of 40 million whom they challenged and dragged the rest of the Arabs behind them. On the day following the referendum in which 5,000 out of a total of 40 million people said no and the rest of the 40 million said yes, they severed relations.

I am satisfied with what I said. I ask you and all the information media to be satisfied with this and to launch no campaign or abuses. Never. We should be satisfied, but I want to tell our brothers in Saudi Arabia and all our brothers who broke off their relations that Egypt will not go back; peace will not stop, God willing, under any circumstance.

The severance of relations will not obstruct us. It will not affect the position of Egypt, its leadership, its power or its economy. It is true that we must make our calculations again, but this will not affect our strength, economy or decision.

Were we to be affected by this, then we would have sold our will to the Soviet Union if it were a question of buying and selling. Instead, we expelled 17,000 experts in one week. We would have also sold our will to the mad boy Al-Qadhdhafi. I do not know what Saudi Arabia wants from us. Do they want to intimidate Egypt into retreating? The answer is no. We will not retreat. As I said, God willing, we will normalize relations and progress. Whenever Israel takes one step forward, we will encourage it and take two steps forward. This is for the sake of peace. I hereby say this publicly.

Let us be satisfied with this. I hope they have heard me. I hope that our brothers who out of courtesy or in return for payment broke off their relations have heard me also. The bandwagon will go ahead. I will not talk again about this subject. I ask the Egyptian people to forget those people and remember Faysal only. We have our values.

With the same spirit we are embarking upon the new stage of reconstruction. In the coming elections, cast your votes and teach the people to cast their votes for the October man who is free of any spirit of defeatism and opportunism, who does not run after the Soviet Union, who does not belong to the old parties which corrupted the political life before 23 July or to the centers of power which came after the 23 July revolution, including the communists and the atheists.

We will clearly declare this. Every person who departs from the moral commitment must be aware of it. We will not act in secret but we will put it to the public. I am currently drafting a law. The expenses of the electoral campaign will be 500 pounds for each candidate. The slogans in the electoral campaign will be: Egypt is above all and Egypt's cause is above all. Those who equate democracy and freedom with abuses and shamelessness must be stopped. The law will be enacted. Meetings will be held for the elections as in most democratic states such as Britain. The meetings will be held under the auspices of the Interior Ministry. However, any word against social peace or the national unity or against Egypt is shameful. What encouraged the Saudis and others, the Iraqis and the Tikrites, the 'Alawites and the boy Al-Qadhdhafi were statements by Egyptian journalists on the one hand and nonjournalists on the other. Maybe you know this: Baghdad has set up a radio station for Egyptian journalists, all of whom are communists. They insult Egypt day and night. The same thing in Syria. In Paris and London the journalists are insulting Egypt. Some of the writers have fled the country. All of them are communists or include opportunists who could possibly be communist, Nasirites, reactionaries or anything else for the sake of money.

The time has come to stop this. The constitution will stipulate that every organization should bring its members to account and every trade union should bring its members to account. The law to be enacted will define the expenses for the electoral campaign and the public meetings. Whatever is for Egypt will be allowed even for a hundred years and anything harmful to the national unity or social peace will be banned. I should not have to stipulate this in the law because it is obvious but regrettable there are people who ignore this. As I said there is the good and the bad in the same family.

Brothers and sisters, sons and daughters: I have one last word to say, which I hope we will always remember day and night: Only the hands of the sons of Egypt can build Egypt and only the blood of Egypt can defend Egypt.

The others cannot feel our pains. What is more is that the others have scoffed at us because we have these pains. In Saudi Arabia and Kuwait they scoff at us because we are poor. We have filled their coffers with money. The price of oil has increased fourfold and their coffers have been filled with money after our sons shed their blood here, in Sinai and everywhere. We are not jealous and we will not ask from anyone. However, they must know and understand that the Egyptian person, even while he is suffering the worst kind of suffering, will always have his head raised high in the sky, God willing.

We will suffer and endure. We alone are capable of confronting everything we are suffering and enduring. Whereas in the battles of blood and sacrifice of life we have asked no one to fight our battles for us, it behooves all of us to form one army and a huge force with which we will fight together the battle of prosperity. The Egyptian people are in a horrible race against time. Yes, I hear you. [commotion from the crowd] The prime minister will issue the mining law. The first phase of Law 83 will be applied at the end of this year, God willing.

Brothers and sisters, we are in a horrible race against time. Egypt is in a horrible race against time. With our requirements for food and housing and our aspirations for a most dignified life, our work must remain bright and must not stop or rest.

Brothers and sisters, sons and daughters: Extend your hands to my hand. My hand is extended to my brother, son, sister and daughter on our land from one end of the country to the other. You have granted me your greatest love, a chaste and noble love which pleases me because it is my food and ammunition along the road.

Let our pulse be the quick rhythm of quick building. Egypt needs every child. Egypt needs every hand. I appeal to every talented person to give and not to be meager in giving. While doing any small or big task, we must ask ourselves how much we have given and not how much we will take or heave taken. This is the tax of prosperity and progress.

I want to reassure you about your country. With the return of the Sinai oilfields, our oil production will reach 1 million barrels daily in 1982, God willing. By the end of 1980 revenues from the Suez Canal will increase by twofold to reach $1 billion annually.

The land will be distributed in accordance with a plan being prepared now by the prime minister and the technical departments so that the distribution will not be done haphazardly. The housing and food crisis will be solved through the building of new societies and allocating ownership.

For example, here in this governorate, when all of you agree on how you will own your lands and bring water to them, God willing, the government will be at your service and will not stand in your way.

We are now engaged in building, free from any restrictions. There is no bureaucracy or red tape. Every governor has the power of the president of the republic. Own the land of your governorate. Exploit the resources of your governorate. Work for the prosperity of your governorate. We approve all of this.

We must prove to the spiteful, the covetous and the malicious that the state of science and faith is the bastion of honest men, the beacon of justice and work and the defender of freedom and freemen.

Brothers and sisters, sons and daughters: Until I meet with you next year, God willing--if God wills that I will live--our meeting, God willing, will be in Sinai. Until that time, I pray to God to grant success to our work and to lead us toward Egypt's glory, construction and prosperity. May God's peace and mercy be with you.

EXCHANGE OF BEGIN, KHALIL LETTERS THROUGH U.S. AMBASSADOR

NC020700 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2312 GMT 1 May 79 NC

[Text] Cairo, 1 May--AL-AHRAM says Wednesday that U.S. Ambassador in Cairo Hermann Eilts has received the letter that Israeli Prime Minister Menahim Begin had promised to address to Prime Minister Dr Mustafa Khalil reaffirming Israel's position on the exchanged complementary letters and full autonomy in the West Bank and Gaza as well as adherence to the texts of the documents signed in Washington.

AL-AHRAM adds that a letter from Prime Minister Khalil for Prime Minister Begin will be handed to the U.S. ambassador. The letter will reaffirm Egypt's adherence to the documents signed in Washington.

It was decided to exchange these two letters when differences arose on drafting and translation during the exchange of the Egyptian-Israeli peace treaty's instruments of ratification in the buffer zone in Sinai last Wednesday.

COOPERATION BETWEEN NPUG, IRAQI BA'TH PARTIES REPORTED

NC011932 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1830 GMT 1 May 79 NC

[Text] The attorney general's office released a statement today revealing the cooperation of the National Progressive Unionist Grouping [NPUG] Party with the Iraqi Ba'th Party in attacking Egypt and its foreign and domestic policy.

The statement explained that the NPUG coordinated with the Iraqi economic adviser in Cairo to dispatch some party members to Iraq to indoctrinate them in Ba'th principles and then return them to Egypt with certain assignments, including the formation of a Ba'th organization composed of Egyptians to implement the schemes of the Iraqi Ba'th Party in Egypt.

The attorney general's statement added that leaflets had been found in the house of the NPUG party secretary in Kafri Shukr containing attacks on the regime and denouncing the domestic and foreign policy of the country.

AL-AHRAM: SEVERANCE OF TIES WILL NOT AFFECT PILGRIMAGE

NC010645 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2317 GMT 1 May 79 NC

[Text] Cairo, 1 May--AL-AHRAM says Wednesday that the departure of Egyptians for Saudi Arabia to perform the small pilgrimage will not be affected by the severance of relations between Egypt and Saudi Arabia. The paper quotes a responsible source at the Ministry of Interior as saying that the vast majority of those who had applied to go on the pilgrimage in the months of Rajab, Sha'ban and Ramadan have already been given entry visas, and that the Saudi Consulate in Cairo will give pilgrimage visas to the rest of the people who have applied.

The source said that the departure of Egyptian pilgrims will not be affected by the severance of relations and that they will be permitted to leave in accordance with the regulations applied in previous years.

PAPER APPLAUDS REPORTED SAUDI INITIATIVE ON JERUSALEM

LD010917 Cairo AKHBAR AL-YAWM in Arabic 28 Apr 79 p 7 LD

['Abd al-Hamid 'Abd al-Ghani article: "A Proposal Worthy of Consideration"]

[Text] The U.S. NEWSWEEK magazine has published the following story:

Amir Fahd has considered the idea of sending to Washington a committee of Islamic states' foreign ministers in order to discuss with Carter and Cabinet ministers the steps that could be taken to assist U.S. efforts for the restoration of Jerusalem as part of the West Bank, from which Israel should withdraw. President as-Sadat supported and welcomed the proposal, which he believed would be a good contribution to peace efforts.

But the U.S. Government sent word to Amir Fahd begging him not to submit such a proposal and telling him that is such a delegation arrived in Washington President Carter would be unable to receive it.

This was the last thing that Amir Fahd wanted to do before leaving Saudi Arabia and going to Spain for treatment. His senior brothers met and took the decision to break off diplomatic relations with Egypt.

If this story, written by one of the magazine's leading correspondents, is true, then the conclusion to be drawn is that Saudi Arabia was offended--and rightly so--by the U.S. Government's attitude. It decided therefore to boycott the peace efforts and to break off relations with Egypt. This, of course, was followed by a chain of similar actions by other Arab countries which also decided to break off diplomatic--and in certain cases also economic--relations with Egypt.

Nevertheless, and despite the fact that Egypt had nothing to do with what happened between Riyadh and Washington, we believe that Amir Fahd's proposal was correct.

The question of Jerusalem concerns the whole Islamic world and not just one country--Jordan or any other. Therefore, it is right and practical that the world Islamic states should contribute to all efforts that can be made to restore Jerusalem to its place in the Islamic world. This could be the only practical way in which the United States will secure real participation in and effective contribution to its efforts for the establishment of a just and stable peace in the Middle East.

IRISH MINISTER OF STATE ANDREWS MEETS WITH GHALI

NC291435 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1306 GMT 29 Apr 79 NC

[Text] Cairo, 29 April--Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Dr Butrus Ghali today held a round of discussions with Irish Minister of State for Foreign Affairs David Andrews. They discussed current developments in the Middle East in the light of the peace agreements and the upcoming negotiations for the establishment of full autonomy in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip.

Dr Ghali explained all aspects of the situation as well as Egypt's efforts which resulted in the peace treaty. In accordance with the treaty all the Egyptian territories will be liberated and practical steps will be taken to attain full autonomy for the Palestinians in the West Bank and Gaza as a primary and basic step toward the regaining by the Palestinian people of all their legitimate and national rights.

Dr Ghali expressed Egypt's appreciation for the European community's positions of support for the establishment of a durable and just peace in the Middle East. He also expressed Egypt's faith that the European Community will continue, during the second half of this year when Ireland will assume the chairmanship of the community, to support the efforts which Egypt will be exerting in this respect.

The Irish minister of state for foreign affairs affirmed his country's readiness to exert all possible efforts aimed at supporting the march toward the attainment of a just and comprehensive peace--a peace that will guarantee all the rights of the countries and peoples of the Middle Eastern area.

During the discussions, Ghali and Andrews also dealt with the historic and fraternal relations between Egypt and Ireland. The roots of these relations extend to the period when both peoples were struggling against British imperialism at the beginning of the current century and which have recently developed into cooperation in various spheres. They also discussed ways to strengthen the bilateral relations between the two countries in all spheres, particularly in the economic and trade spheres.

Dr Ghali will give a dinner banquet tonight in honor of the Irish guest and the accompanying delegation, who arrived yesterday on a 2-day visit to Egypt.

Andrews, As-Sayih Meeting

JN291525 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1450 GMT 29 Apr 79 JN

[Text] Cairo, 29 April--Dr Hamid as-Sayih, minister of economy and foreign trade, met here today with David Andrews, Irish minister of state for foreign affairs, who is currently visiting Cairo. During the meeting, which was attended by Irish Ambassador in Cairo (Brian Shely), they discussed economic and trade relations and means of bolstering them.

Andrews Departure

NC301057 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0934 GMT 30 Apr 79 NC

[Text] Cairo, 30 April--Irish Minister of State for Foreign Affairs David Andrews, left Cairo this morning after a 2-day visit to Egypt during which he met with Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Dr Butrus Ghali, and Minister of Economy and Foreign Trade Hamid as-Sayih to discuss ways of bolstering the relations between the two countries.

David Andrews was seen off at the airport by senior officials of the Foreign Ministry and members of the Irish Embassy in Cairo.

PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS READ AT MAY DAY RALLY ATTACKS AS-SADAT

JN012111 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1440 GMT 1 May 79 JN

[Excerpts] Baghdad, 1 May--President Ahmad Hasan al-Bakr has described the May Day celebrations as an expression of the historic aspirations of the people's of the world for emancipation from all forms of oppression, usurpation and racial discrimination.

In a speech read on his behalf today at a mammoth popular rally in which half a million workers took part to celebrate International Labor Day, the president said that the first of May embodies the significance of human values. He called for the strengthening of the struggle of the working class [words indistinct] and for promoting the cause of unifying trade unions and organizations to enable the working class to play its role during this phase of Arab history--a role which will be commensurate with the challenges and the plots facing the Arab nation.

The president said that the developments in the Arab area following As-Sadat's visit to Arab Jerusalem and his signing of the peace treaty with the enemy are a warning against an imminent offensive and the escalation of the imperialist-Zionist plots against the Arab nation.

The president added that As-Sadat's steps have opened the way for strengthening the U.S. imperialist influence in the Arab homeland and entrenching the Zionist usurpation of Arab territories. As-Sadat's steps also constitute a new springboard from which to pounce on Africa and bring it back under imperialist and Zionist control, he added.

President al-Bakr said that the new alliance led by Carter, Begin and As-Sadat will not be satisfied with freezing Egypt's role in the Arab-Zionist struggle, but will also place As-Sadat's regime in the service of the imperialist and Zionist aims of finally liquidating the Palestinian cause, countering the Arab nation's struggle and bringing the entire Arab region under U.S. imperialist and Zionist control.

The president stressed that Iraq's initiative in calling for an Arab summit, which coincided with the Syrian-Iraqi Joint National Action Charter, has placed the Arab struggle on the correct path of militant unity, complete liberation and changing the balance of power in favor of the Arab nation. The charter, he added, has raised morale and opened the way for the mobilization of Arab resources, and represents the beginning of the road to confronting imperialism and Zionism.

The president said that all Arab regimes are called on to support the Arab summit resolutions in form and substance because they are the minimum of joint Arab action. They also must support the Arab foreign and economy ministers conference resolutions which punish the traitorous regime for its deviation from the Arab ranks and which will help the people of Egypt to punish the traitor and restore Egypt to the Arab fold so it can perform its pioneering Arab role.

The president stressed that the threats posed by the plot do not allow any hesitation or neutrality and will not permit the implementation of less than the minimum measures. The Arab nation, he said, will prove its ability to make history and punish those who betray it and threaten its future and territorial integrity. The comprehensive plot and the international powers which stand by it prompt the Arabs to be up to the level of responsibility to face the challenges and to unify their ranks so as to outflank the plot and nip it in the bud.

SYRIAN FOREIGN MINISTER ARRIVES IN BEIRUT

NC020910 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0900 GMT 2 May 79 NC

[Text] Syrian Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam arrived at the B'abda Palace from Damascus at 1030 today. He was received by President Ilyas Sarkis in the presence of Prime Minister Dr Salim al-Huss and Foreign Minister Fu'ad Butrus.

ARMY, UNIFIL MEET TO DISCUSS SITUATION IN SOUTH

NC011343 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 1 May 79 NC

[Excerpt] While President Ilyas Sarkis was following up the developments in the south and giving directives for the stabilization of security in Beirut, Prime Minister Dr Salim al-Huss went to the Defense Ministry in Al-Yarzah to preside over a meeting of the Lebanese Army Command with the UNIFIL Command to discuss future measures after the entry of the army in the south.

In addition to Al-Huss, the meeting was attended by Defense Minister Gen Victor Khuri and acting Army Commander Staff Brig Gen Munir Tarabay. On the UNIFIL side, the meeting was attended by the UNIFIL commander in the south, Gen Emmanuel Erskine and a number of his advisers.

The discussions centered on the question of completing the implementation of the phased program aimed at restoring Lebanese sovereignty over the south. The implementation of the program started with the entry of a Lebanese Army battalion into that region.

After the meeting Dr Salim al-Huss made a statement in which he said: Today's meeting was devoted to discussing the steps required from UNIFIL to allow the full implementation of the phased program. Earlier we agreed with the United Nations and their forces command in the south on the implementation of the program, and it was emphasized that the remaining part of the first stage of the program should also be implemented. The first stage includes the deployment of the UN forces and then the deployment of the Lebanese Army in defined positions on the border zone.

Al-Huss added: This meeting has come after the UN Security Council adopted the phased program. In a statement issued a few days ago, the Security Council called for the adoption of the necessary speedy measures to implement it. The UNIFIL Command briefed us on their present efforts and measures to be taken in this respect.

Al-Huss concluded his statement by saying: We have emphasized the need to interpret the commitment to the phased program to be rapid action and that if the present efforts to implement it do not achieve quick and tangible results, we would go back to the Security Council to ask for their intervention, using all available avenues and measures to implement the program agreed on to safeguard Lebanon's right to its south.

VOICE OF LEBANON REPORTS 1 MAY SECURITY SITUATION

NC011930 (Clandestine) Voice of Lebanon in Arabic to Lebanon 1715 GMT 1 May 79 NC

[Excerpt] At 1855 Two missiles were fired from an Arab Deterrent Forces [ADF] position in Ash-Shiyah in the direction of 'Ayn ar-Rummanah. These missiles caused material damage.

The security situation has made marked progress on all the combat lines and in the various areas, perhaps thanks to the holiday.

However, reports from the south state that war vessels plied the sea off Sidon and Tyre and that long-range artillery shelled the suburbs of Tyre. A shell fell in Al-Khrab locality, killing Habib Yusuf al-Buwayri. The other shells wounded four persons and damaged a number of houses and some crops.

A clash took place near the city of Tyre between members of the communist labor organization and some members of the [Shi'ite] Amal movement. During this clash, a number of combatants were wounded.

Beirut Security Situation

NC020709 (Clandestine) Voice of Lebanon in Arabic to Lebanon 0615 GMT 2 May 79 NC

[Text] The traditional lines were subjected to intensive gunfire last night. The sound of RPG rockets, antitank and 106-mm flat trajectory gunfire was heard in the As-Sayfi quarter and the southern suburb.

The areas of At-Tahwitah, Mazda, the mills and post office were subjected to heavy bursts of fire from various weapons. Firing ceased early this morning.

BASHIR AL-JUMAYYIL VIEWS INTERNAL, FOREIGN ISSUES

LD011247 London AL-HAWADITH in Arabic 27 Apr 79 PP 11-14 LD

[Interview given by Bashir al-Jumayyil, commander of the Lebanese Phalangist forces, to Fawzi Haddad and Sami al-Haj in Beirut--date not given]

[Excerpt] We said to Shaykh Bashir: After the Lebanese Army entered the south you declared your support for this move. How would you then explain the militia's attitude in the south in view of the fact that it is considered to be on your side?

Answer: Our principled stand is that the Lebanese Army should enter all Lebanese territories without exception, especially those areas where its presence is essential. Proceeding from this premise we accepted the army's stationing on Dog's River, Al-Mu'Amaltayn, Rizq tower and other places because this would be the first step toward its deployment in other areas where its presence is more necessary and urgent, such as Ad-Damur and Al-'Ayshiyah and elsewhere where security is lacking. The south, of course, is an indivisible part of Lebanon. We have approved the army's entry to the south despite our belief that this will not lead to solving the problem there or in Lebanon as a whole. As for the militia's attitude in the south, this is a matter of its concern alone. It is regarded as being on our side because Israel gives this impression when it calls it "the Phalangist alliance" at one time or "the Christian militia" or "Lebanese forces" at other times. It is true that those people are our kinfolk and colleagues who fought with us in all other Lebanese areas, yet when the battles moved to the south they went back to their villages, homes and fields. The situation then developed to the point where they could no longer break through the blockade around them. This applies to the Christians in the south as well as to the Shi'ites and Druze who are suffering a similar situation and are having to face excesses committed by strangers [Palestinians].

Their problem is one and the same: Either destruction or evacuation (destruction for the Christians and evacuation for the Muslims) or cooperating with whomever extends a helping hand to them.

[Question] You mean there is no coordination between you and them?

[Answer] You can neither reach them nor talk to them. You cannot even take them a drink of water or a cup of coffee. How, then, can you have any say in what they do when you can offer them nothing?

[Question] But Sa'd Haddad has overstepped the mark and has gone against the state and the country when he declared his separatist move which he called "the free Lebanese state." What is your attitude to this move?

[Answer] Once again I say that during the past 4 years of the Lebanese war the southerners--both Christians and Muslims--have felt that the Lebanese state has abandoned them. Unfortunately, the wrong actions by this state, the shortsightedness of Lebanese officials and, consequently, the measures taken against the citizens in the south have led to the southerners adopting stances that Lebanon could have done without.

The seriousness of this step [by Haddad] has not yet been determined, but it is feared that if in the future the state does not take the problem of the south seriously then further and more dangerous steps than the one already taken will follow.

[Question] Shaykh Bashir, not just Sa'd Haddad, but you too are accused of collaborating with Israel.

[Answer] We collaborate with nobody. We have our own interests which we must secure in the manner available to us. When we faced the threat of becoming dispersed refugees like the Palestinians, nobody asked about us. We have done as our interest dictates we should, but we collaborate with nobody. We are Lebanese and nationalists; we do nothing that might harm our cause. We reject any accusation of this sort. We have never made such an accusation even against those who really do collaborate with Israel.

[Question] Who are these people, Shaykh Bashir?

[Answer] You know who these people are, whether they are Syrians, Palestinians or others. You know who they are.

[Question] What about arms? It is believed that you cooperate with Israel, militarily at least.

[Answer] Do you want me to show you our statement of accounts so that you may see what amounts are being spent on arms and ammunition? We buy a great proportion of our arms while we receive the rest from whomever gives it to us. Should Saudi Arabia say that it is willing to give us arms in order to defend ourselves then we would be ready to receive them because we would, at the same time, be defending the first line of defense which is probably the Saudis' line as well.

[Question] Did the Israelis not promise you help when you clashed with the Syrians last October?

[Answer] We do not believe in anybody's promises nor do we rely on foreign aid from any source because we realize that such foreign aid will cost us more than it is worth. We prefer to depend on our own strength and capability as well as on the resources available to us.

We do not depend on foreign intervention of any kind. The splendid steadfast stand we took in October 1978 was of our own making. I am grateful that there was no intervention from any side because, otherwise, the moral gain and the self-confidence we achieved would have been lost and others would have taken the credit. We do not need anybody to die for us or to defend us. If the Palestinians at a certain time sought the help of people from Somalia, Germany, Japan and the Red Brigades in order to assist them in defending their cause, that is their own business. We do not need anybody to help us or to promise us help.

[Question] You are also being accused of trying to take control of the Phalangist Party. You have abolished the role of all the moderate political forces. Are you aspiring to turn the party into a military dictatorship?

[Answer] In principle there are no hawks or doves in the Phalangist Party. There are people who believe in their cause and there are others who do not. Those who so believe devote all their resources and themselves to the achievement of this objective. Those who do not believe in their cause use it as object of barter.

[Question] You are also being accused of wanting to be a substitute not only for the army but also for the Lebanese State and, therefore, you behave as if you were the state.

[Answer] The happiest day in my life will be when the state becomes a state in the full sense of the word. Shaykh Pierre [Bashir's father] has been saying and reiterating that we want the state to stand on its own feet and to be the stronger party. But such good wishes are frustrated when the state fails to move or is unable to take decisions. In the light of such a stalemate we are compelled to act and we do so out of our sense of responsibility.

[Question] What is your opinion about the renewal of the mandate of the Arab Deterrent Forces [ADF] for 3 months instead of 6 months? Were you aware of the reasons that dictated this and do you consider the renewal as a positive or negative sign?

[Answer] We were not aware that the renewal of the ADF's mandate was going to be carried out in this manner, but since President as-Sadat's visit to Jerusalem in 1977 we felt that something was happening in the Arab world and that the existing equations would change. Later the peace agreement was signed and it became a reality as well as a basic element in the political arena and in the region. It has become incumbent upon many countries in the region to define their stand in this regard. These factors have obliged some Arab countries to turn their attention to their domestic problems. Syria today is called upon to make a decision. Of course, when Syria is in control of Lebanon, or believes that it is, its position in the negotiations will be different, not the same as it would be if Lebanon and the Palestinian problem were not under its control. We had believed that something other than the normal mandate renewal was going to be decided behind the scenes. I hold the state fully responsible because many of the developments will depend on the state's attitude. What will the state's attitude be when the Syrians withdraw from Lebanon? Will the "valiant" army that we see on television once or twice a week be able to replace the ADF forces and impose security and stability and provide the reassurance that all Lebanese desire? Or will we go back to the situation prior to the Syrian Army's entry to Lebanon?

[Question] Following the signing of the Egyptian-Israeli peace treaty and the Arab foreign and economy ministers' resolutions at the Baghdad conference to boycott Egypt politically, what are your views on the situation in Lebanon and what is your evaluation of the impact of Arab polarization on it?

[Answer] There is a connection between the internal crisis and the crisis in the region because the Lebanese arena involves the basic parties concerned with the Arab-Israeli conflict. Here we have the Palestinians and the Syrians not only as political forces but also as military elements. The peace agreement has taken Egypt out of the Arab ranks and, therefore, the decision today is up to the Syrians and the Palestinians. Many situations will change in the light of their attitudes because Israel cannot possibly give Syria leeway or time to maneuver before making its decision. Certainly the impact on Lebanon will become clear and developments will occur in the Lebanese arena. The Syrian decision will be so important that it is bound to have repercussions. We must be careful lest the Syrian deicision will be at our expense. If Syria decides to go along with peace we must not allow it to impose itself on us as a guardian or to use the Lebanese card in any peace negotiations that might take place. We must take all the measures that would spare us the evils of any deliberate military or nonmilitary conflict in Lebanon. I have no idea what the Syrian stand will be nor how much maneuvering room Hafiz al-Asad has.

[Question] Do you blieve that the Lebanese war is petering out?

[Answer] We hate war and we entered into it against our will. But war did not frighten us because if we were frightened of it, it would have swept us away. Since we have been hurt by it and paid its price we are doing all we possibly can so that it will not recur. We are trying to insure that a peaceful solution takes priority over everything else. What have we gained from war? Who is the winner and who is the loser? We all have lost and nobody has won. But had we not fought it we would have lost everything.

HADDAD: DUTCH CONTINGENT SYMPATHETIC TO PALESTINIANS

LD010951 Rotterdam NRC HANDELSBLAD in Dutch 23 Apr 79 pp 1, 5 LD

[Salomon Bouman interview with Lebanese Christian Militia leader Sa'd Haddad in Marj 'Uyun on 23 April: "Haddad: The Netherlands Favors the PLO in Lebanon"]

[Excerpts] Marj 'Uyun, 23 April--Mrj Sa'd Haddad, commander of the Christian forces in "Free Lebanon," is critical of the Dutch UN Interim Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL) detachment. "So far my impression is that the Dutch UNIFIL soldiers are sympathetic to the PLO," Haddad said yesterday in an interview at his residence in Marj 'Uyun, the capital of "Free Lebanon," just a few kilometers from the Israeli border.

"The Dutch soldiers must behave in a more neutral manner and understand that we are their friends, not the Palestinians," Haddad said. He ascribes this alleged Dutch sympathy to information which the detachment obtained from the French concerning the situation in southern Lebanon.

"The French gave the Dutch misleading and one-sided information," he said. "We were happy when the Dutch arrived. We welcomed them as brothers. I hope that the Dutch UNIFIL soldiers will alter their behavior," Major Haddad said.

As could be expected, Major Haddad vented his spleen on Dr Waldheim, whose latest report on the situation in southern Lebanon deeply offended him. For Haddad it is an established fact that "Waldheim favors the PLO, is Anti-Semitic and is a former Nazi." That view accords with his conclusion that "UNIFIL is cooperating with the PLO." In face of these threats and misunderstandings he upholds "Free Lebanon" (700 square km and 100,000 inhabitants), which was proclaimed last week, as a springboard for the "complete liberation" of Lebanon from the "Syrian and Palestinian occupiers."

He stressed: "We have not seceded from Lebanon, but our action can be compared to De Gaulle's when he proclaimed a Free France in London in 1940." [date as published] Haddad said that 90 percent of the Lebananese people support the proclamation of a "Free Lebanon." The open support given to his movement by Camille Sham'un's Lebanese National Front is just the tip of the iceberg of support.

"I have even received support from Muslim leaders in Lebanon," Haddad said. "Most people cannot express open support for me for fear of revenge."

High Treason

Major Haddad was enraged when I reminded him that the Beirut government has decided to try him for high treason in absentia. "I will put President Sarkis, Al-Asad of Syria and 'Arafat on trial as my prisoners, not in absentia. It is they who have betrayed Lebanon. I intend to get my hands on them. I think Al-Asad would prefer to commit suicide. He is furious that I have frustrated the Syrian ambition to overrun Lebanon completely and annex it."

WORKERS HOLD MAY DAY RALLY, RAJBUT DELIVERS ADDRESS

JN011806 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1215 GMT 1 May 79 JN

[Excerpt] The city of Hamah was today the scene of a great peoples' and workers' rally under the patronage of President Hafiz al-Asad on the occasion of 1 May, international Labor Day. President al-Asad deputized Comrade Muhammad Jabir Bajbuj, assistant secretary general of the Regional Command of the Ba'th Party, to attend the rally. The rally was also attended by Mahmud Hadid, speaker of the People's Assembly; members of the Regional Command of the party; several members of the Nationalist Progressive Front General Command; representatives of the International Federation of Arab Trade Unions; secretaries and members of the party branches in the various provinces; several mayors; heads and members of several popular organizations in the country; delegations of the executive workers bureaus in the country; and heads and members of trade unions.

Comrade Muhammad Jabir Bajbuj, assistant secretary general of the Regional Command of the party and representative of leader President Hafiz al-Asad, delivered a speech in which he extended the sincere greetings of President Hafiz al-Asad on this occasion. Comrade Bajbuj said: It is a great day today when the city of Hamah welcomes brother workers from the various Syrian provinces who have come to participate in celebrating May Day. Comrade Bajbuj emphasized the need to make this celebration an occasion to mobilize all our powers, further consolidate our ranks, and continue the struggle on the road of liberty and integrity.

Comrade Bajbuj noted that this year the occasion falls at a time when our country is facing the most dangerous Zionist-imperialist plot. This requires further steadfastness and defiance in the face of all plots. We are also required to increase our efforts and production so we can further strengthen our steadfastness. He said that these plots not only aim at enabling Israel to occupy the Arab lands and liquidate the Palestine question, but also to dominate the Arab homeland in accordance with U.S. expansionist and imperialist plans.

Reviewing As-Sadat's schemes, Comrade Bajbuj said: The Egyptian ruler has chosen the way of treason and humiliation. He has also abandoned all pan-Arab and national rights. Furthermore, he has moved to the camp of the Arab nation's enemies, to the camp of the Zionists and imperialists, thus implementing the Zionist-U.S. strategy.

Comrade Bajbuj also taked about Syria's steadfast stand under the leadership of the Ba'th Party and its secretary general. In this connection, Comrade Bajbuj stressed that Syria's fate is to carry out its pan-Arab duties and responsibilities and to always be in the frontline of our nation's struggle. Therefore, Syria has repeatedly stressed its categorical rejection and condemnation of As-Sadat's treacherous and capitulatory scheme, and is continuing the struggle to reach a just peace based on Israel's withdrawal from all the occupied Arab territories. Syria is also continuing the struggle to secure the Palestinian people's rights, including their right to self-determination and the establishment of their independent state under the leadership of the PLO, their sole legitimate representative.

After reviewing the U.S.-Zionist designs and As-Sadat's treason, Comrade Bajbuj said: The main duty today is to face and repulse the plot. The plot is big and, therefore, the response should be up to the same level. There is only one way to safeguard our rights and integrity--the method of steadfastness and confrontation.

Comrade 'Izz ad-Din Nasir, candidate member of the Ba'th Party Regional Command and chairman of the General Federation of Workers Trade Unions, also delivered a speech in which he expressed his gratitude to President Hafiz al-Asad for sponsoring the May Day rally.

Comrade Nasir highly praised the courageous stands of our beloved country under the leadership of President Hafiz al-Asad--stands represented by confronting the danger, developing Syrian-Palestinian cohesion, establishing the pan-Arab Front of Steadfastness and Confrontation, and creating the pan-Arab Joint Action Charter between Syria and Iraq on the way toward comprehensive unity.

Addressing the workers, Comrade Nasir stressed the need to increase our efforts and production. He said that his will be the most demanding of our nationalist and socialist duties. He said: The working and productive hand is the basic element in establishing developed production.

On behalf of the working class, Comrade Nasir vowed to continue the march to achieve our people's goals inside the country and to promote their aims of liberating the occupied territories and repulsing the imperialist onslaught, the Zionist invasion and As-Sadat's treason.

RIF'AT AL-ASAD ADDRESSES ARMY UNIT CELEBRATION

JN012056 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1915 GMT 1 May 79 JN

[Excerpt] One of our army units today held a celebration [not further identified] attended by Comrade Lt Col Rif'at al-Asad, member of the Ba'th Party Regional Command. Banners bearing the party slogans and pictures of President Hafiz al-Asad were raised. A number of symbolic units paraded and demonstrations of fighting at close range were given.

The commander of the unit gave a speech in which he greeted Dr Rif'at al-Asad, commander of the defense squads. He praised the steadfastness of our armed forces and their sacrifices in the interests of the Arabs' fateful causes.

Comrade Rif'at al-Asad made a speech to the fighters in which he conveyed the greetings of President Hafiz al-Asad.

PDRY FOREIGN MINISTER MAKES STATEMENT ON ARRIVAL

JN011558 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1215 GMT 1 May 79 JN

[Text] Damascus--PDRY Foreign Minister Muhammad Salih Muti' arrived in Damascus this morning. Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam was at the head of the receiving party at the airport.

Speaking to a SANA correspondent, Muhammad Salih Muti' said: My visit to Damascus comes within the framework of the continuous meetings between officials of the two fraternal countries, Syria and the PDRY. These meetings are aimed at reviewing recent developments in the Middle East, particularly in light of As-Sadat's treason.

The PDRY foreign minister added: This visit also has the goal of discussing the various means to face all the imperialist-Zionist-As-Sadat moves in accordance with the Baghdad summit resolutions.

We will also discuss the situation in fraternal Lebanon following lackey Sa'd Haddad's proclamation of his isolationist state in southern Lebanon--a state which is supported by Israel.

The PDRY foreign minister emphasized that while in Damascus he will outline the recent achievements regarding unity between the two Yemens.

AL-BA'TH ATTACKS AS-SADAT'S 'SUPPORT FOR ISRAEL'

JN020940 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0430 GMT 2 May 79 JN

[From the press review]

[Text] Under the headline "Syria Is Determined To Confront the Conspiracy Until It Has Been Foiled," the newspaper AL-BA'TH says that there is unanimous agreement that Sa'd Haddad's secessionist operation in southern Lebanon is part of the Camp David conspiracy against the Arab nation and that Sa'd Haddad's move is in implementation of one of the provisions of this scheme.

Sa'd Haddad's operation is a Zionist step supported by the United States and the As-Sadat regime to enable Israel to fulfill the objectives of the aggression it launched against this party of Lebanon last year; namely, the occupation of a part of Arab land. The establishment of Haddad's ministate means the continuation of this occupation.

AL-BA'TH adds that the presence of troops of the As-Sadat regime at the side of Sa'd Haddad--as reported by news agencies--indicates the close As-Sadat-Zionist coordination to sabotage the Arab position and to help Israel achieve its expansionist objectives in Arab land. In light of this it is not surprising that Begin announced that the As-Sadat regime constitutes a security factor for Israel. The truth is that As-Sadat's task since he signed the treasonous agreement has been to achieve this security.

AL-BA'TH adds that based on all this it is not surprising that a regime which has assumed the position as Israel's protector stands by Israel and the United States in their attacks against the Arab nation, its patriotic and national forces--with Syria in the lead--and in denying the Palestinian people's ownership of the West Bank and the Gaza Strip.

As-Sadat delivered a speech yesterday in which he launched a campaign of fabrications and hatred against the Arab nation and against Syria in particular for its pan-Arab position. Its leadership of the Arab struggle against the conspiratorial schemes As-Sadat has been entrusted to carry out, and for Syria's unlimited support for the Palestinian revolution and for Palestinian rights, As-Sadat insolently declared that the West Bank and the Gaza Strip are no one's property and that he has given himself the right to speak on their behalf. What has happened to the claims of the Egyptian regime that it remains committed to the Palestinian rights when As-Sadat himself has denied the Palestinians their rights to the occupied West Bank and the Gaza Strip?

In fact, As-Sadat's claims that he still remains committed to Arab rights, while attacking all the Arabs, are mere lies intended to cover up his treason against the Arab cause and to delude the Egyptian people about his conspiratorial and treasonous course.

AL-BA'TH concludes that As-Sadat is participating with Israel and the United States in their fierce onslaught against the Arab nation in a losing attempt to shake the Arab front which opposes his regime after he has been insolated on the Arab and internal levels.

ALGERIA

JOINT COMMUNIQUE ISSUED ON SPANISH PRIME MINISTER'S VISIT

LD012138 Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 1 May 79 LD

[Text] The official visit of Spanish Prime Minister Adolfo Suarez to Algiers was concluded with the release of a joint communique. Here is the text of the communique:

At the invitation of Abdelghani, member of the Political Bureau and prime minister, Adolfo Suarez, prime minister of the Spanish kingdom, paid a visit to Algeria from 30 April to 1 May 1979. Prime Minister Suarez held political talks during his stay in Algeria. Those taking part on the Algerian side were: Abdelghani, member of the Political Bureau and prime minister; Mohamed Benyahia, member of the Political Bureau and foreign minister; and Ism'il Hamdani, secretary general of the government. Taking party on the Spanish side were Prime Minister Adolfo Suarez, Foreign Affairs Minister Marcelino Oreja and Energy and Industry Minister Carlos Bustelo.

Mr Suarez was received by President Chadli Bendjedid, president of the republic and secretary general of the FLN Party. In addition to these talks, the Spanish minister of energy and industry held talks with the Algerian ministers of trade, construction, housing and town planning, energy and petrochemical industries, light industry and heavy industry.

The talks between the two delegations took place in a frank atmosphere, allowing the two sides to evaluate bilateral relations, profoundly study the Western Sahara issue and exchange viewpoints on the international situation particularly in the Middle East, Africa and the Mediterranean. After studying the state of Algerian-Spanish cooperation and the development of economic, cultural, scientific and technical relations, the two delegations reviewed ways and means of strengthening these relations for the benefit of the two countries.

In this connection, the two sides noted a common will to establish an Algerian-Spanish dialog on firm bases and on a broad structure of cooperation in all spheres. In this regard, the two sides considered that the implementation of plans for a gas pipeline linking the two countries forms a considerable economic and political aim in the interest of the two countries and also the European countries which participate in this implementation.

The two sides stressed that their bilateral relations are inspired by the UN Charter on the question of friendly relations among nations. The two sides profoundly studied the Western Sahara issue and they expressed deep concern about this tense situation (?and its dangers) to the peoples of the area--particularly the Saharan people. The Spanish side reaffirmed that putting a final end to Spanish administration of the region on 26 April 1976 did not mean a transfer of sovereignty. This region is not independent in accordance with provision No 73 of the UN Charter. The two sides consider that the liquidation of colonialism from the Western Sahara has taken too long, that the settlement of the issue requires an urgent peaceful and political solution, and that this solution should embrace all the Saharan territory on the basis of respect for UN and OAU principles and resolutions by allowing the Saharan people to exercise the right of self-determination.

The two sides affirmed their absolute adherence to these principles and resolutions and they expressed their commitment to taking all the necessary steps to implement them urgently and effectively.

The two sides also expressed their readiness to contribute to the efforts and initiatives taken at the regional level or within the framework of the United Nations for the purpose of encouraging the establishment of peace and cooperation among all the peoples of the area.

In this connection the two sides expressed the wish that the current of peace, which is particularly featured in the Mauritanian initiative and the decision of the POLISARIO Front to cease fire on 12 July 1978, would lead to a speedy and lasting settlement of the Western Sahara issue. [passage indistinct]

The Algerian-Spanish joint communique added that Algeria and Spain, two Mediterranean countries, wish to unite their efforts to render the Mediterranean area into an area of peace and cooperation. In this connection the two sides expressed their intention to work together [words indistinct] to liquidate the tensions and search for just solutions of existing disputes--something which is for the purpose of establishing peace and security and encouraging cooperation in the interest of the Mediterranean countries.

In this connection the two sides reviewed the work of the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe and the conditions for insuring effective participation by the (?Arab) countries of the Mediterranean in the coming conference to be held in Madrid in 1980. The Algerian side expressed its satisfaction with the initiatives taken by Spain in this direction.

The two sides studied the possibility of deepening the dialog between north and south, and the viewpoints on the need to establish a new international economic system were identical.

SPRING SESSION OF NATIONAL ASSEMBLY OPENS

LD011614 Algiers APS in English 1007 GMT 1 May 79 LD

[Text] Algiers, 1 May (APS)--The spring session of the Algerian People's National Assembly opened Monday under the chairmanship of Mr. Rabah Bitat, member of the FLN Party's Politburo and chairman of the assembly.

The agenda of the session includes discussion and approval of several draft laws, approval of regulations within the assembly, discussion on amendments of the constitution.

The participants will also hear communications from government representatives on state monopoly over foreign trade, planned investments for the previous year and prospects for 1979's second semester.

Also present at the opening session were Mr. Abdelghani, Politburo member and prime minister, Politburo and government members and authorities of the Wilaya [Province] of Algiers.

In his opening speech, the chairman of the People's National Assembly, Mr Rabah Bitat, stressed the particular significance of this session and emphasized the role the assembly has to play in the spirit of the constitution and National Charter.

He then defined the different tasks to be carried out by the assembly in conformity with the resolutions adopted during the fourth congress of the National Liberation Front (FLN Party).

These tasks include mainly satisfaction of the masses basic needs and installing of more rigor in the economic administration of the country.

Mr. Rabah Bitat underlined the mission of control assigned to the assembly and said this role should be played for the benefit of all and for the individual's promotion.

The chairman of the assembly finally reasserted the Algerian revolution's unconditional support to all peoples right to self-determination and expressed Algeria's solidarity with the Palestinian and Saharan peoples in their struggle against occupation and oppression.

OMANI LIBERATION FRONT OFFICIAL INTERVIEWED ON VISIT

LD011434 Algiers APS in English 1025 GMT 1 May 79 LD

[Text] [Passage indistinct] trophy for imperialism which immediately replaced it by the As-Sadat's reactionary regime, the new policeman in the region, and the best protector of Zionism and imperialism's strategic and economic interests," Mr. 'Abd al-Hafidh Jama'an, executive committee member and responsible of [as received] external relations of Oman Liberation Front (O.L.F.) declared yesterday to the Algerian News Agency (APS).

Mr. Jama'an, who is leading an O.L.F. delegation which is currently on a visit to Algiers, declared that the last events in the Arab area have an effect upon the situation in Oman. Inside our country, the people are carrying on the struggle successfully against the reactionary power and foreign presence. On the external field, O.L.F. established good relations with many friendly and brother countries and denounced the Qabbus regime's treachery on the Arab and international fields.

Qabbus is still in power thanks to foreign support. He called on Great Britain to send new troops following the shah's downfall, and promised U.S.A. military bases in Oman to control liberation movement in the area. We already know, Mr. Jama'an adds, that American troops are stationed in "Macira" Island and about 7,000 Egyptian soldiers have been sent recently. But the Omani people are aware of the situation and is decided to win.

As for the separate treaty, Mr. Jama'an called on the Arab countries to boycott Egypt and condemned King Hassan II of Morocco, President Numayri of Sudan and Qabbus of Oman, As-Sadat's supporters in his capitulative policy, and the spokesman of imperialism.

"We particularly consider the Algerian revolution and its political impact on the Arab world. The Algerian position toward the Palestinian and the Saharan causes is significant," Mr. Jama'an concluded.

COMMENTARY EXAMINES AS-SADAT'S 'CAPITULATIVE POLICY'

LD011516 Algiers APS in English 1016 GMT 1 May 79 LD

[Text] Algiers, 1 May (APS)--"Iran broke its diplomatic relations with Egypt, following the example of the fifteen Arab countries, and at the same time has stressed the isolation of Cairo's regime since the separate treaty's signing," the Algerian News Agency (A.P.S.) writes today in a commentary devoted to As-Sadat's capitulative policy.

"President as-Sadat is to launch a diplomatic counter-attack towards non-aligned countries and particularly Europe to seek for a support to his capitulative policy. As-Sadat was encouraged by some Western countries which provided him all the help to mislead the international opinion. The attempt was to make this international opinion believe that from Camp David's agreement will emerge a solution to the Palestinian problem," A.P.S. said.

Egyptian senior officials are expected in various African, European and Asian capitals. They won't succeed, particularly in Africa and Asia where the separate peace treaty was largely condemned and Egypt expulsed from the different international instances.

The Egyptian's regime was expelled from many pan-Arab organizations such as the Arab Monetary Fund for Economic and Social Development (F.M.A.D.E.S), the Arab Investment Company (C.A.I.), the Arab Bank for Development in Africa (B.A.D.A.), and the Arab Company of Mines (C.A.M.). The Organisation of Arab Petroleum Exporting Countries (O.A.P.E.C.) suspended the Cairo regime's participation in this organism and embargoed the oil shipments to Egypt.

These measures are in conformity with the Arab foreign ministers Baghdad conference's resolutions and efficiently contribute to the isolation of As-Sadat's regime outside Egypt and inside, where the popular struggle is developing, through the announcement of the creation of a front grouping all the movements which reject As-Sadat's capitulative policy.

LIBYA

STATEMENT DENOUNCING NEW CHADIAN GOVERNMENT ISSUED

LD012012 Tripoli JANA in English 1943 GMT 1 May 79 LD

[Text] Tripoli, 1 May, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY--The Foreign Secretariat of the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah issued a statement on the formation of a new government in Chad, reading as follows: "The news agency reported that a new government was formed in N'Djamena and the Foreign Secretariat in the Jamahiriyah affirms that the formation of such a government is a violation of the Kano agreement. In view of its commitment and responsibility towards the crisis which the people of Chad are facing, the Jamahiriyah announces the following:

1--What was alleged by the group imposed on the people of Chad, the formation of a new government, is insignificant and of no importance, for this government is illegal and the one who formed it has no legality, and it contradicts the Kano agreement which stipulates the formation of a transitional national unity government from all parties which signed the agreement and the parties which agreed on the items of the agreement, so the government only represents itself, and no government could be formed in Chad, except in accordance with the Kano agreement.

2--The Jahairiyah cannot recognize the fake government, affirming its confidence that the countries involved will not be deceived by this manoeuvre which aims at monopolizing power by a certain group which will also aggravate the situation in the country and cause a bloodshed and fighting among brothers.

3--The Jamahiriyah is continuously in contact with all the neighbouring countries to Chad in order to hold a conference with all Chadian parties attending it, and then to form a government according to the Kano agreement, in order to enable the Chadian people with all its sects to possess the initiative and not to give chance to the adventurers to dominate power and fiddle with the people's destiny.

JALLUD RECEIVES MESSAGE FROM AYATOLLAH KHOMEYNI

LD011734 Tripoli JANA in English 1647 GMT 1 May 79 LD

[Text] Tripoli, May 1, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY--Our correspondent here learnt that Staff Major 'Abd as-Salam Ahmad Jallud received a written message from Ayatollah Khomeyni in reply to the message sent by the leader of the Great First of September Revolution Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi and delivered by Staff Major Jallud.

Ayatollah Khomeyni reaffirmed the solidarity of the people and the Islamic revolution in Iran with the Arab people's struggle to restore their usurped territories.

The message included that Ayatollah Khomeyni has advised the Iranian Government to sever its relations with the Egyptian regime and that he has called upon all Muslims to fight the defeated president as the latter has betrayed the sacred Arab cause and abandoned the Arab rights.

He also stressed the importance of welding the two Islamic revolutions in Iran and the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah.

ALLEGATIONS OF CHADIAN, EGYPTIAN INCIDENTS DENIED

LD011722 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1600 GMT 1 May 79 LD

[Text] Tripoli, 1 May--An Arab Libyan source has denied allegations by AFP that an Arab Libyan Dakota DC-3 aircraft carrying weapons for rebels in Chad crashed in central Chad on 25 April. The source said that this report was groundless, and that it was a fabrication by hostile Western propaganda organs designed to divide the Arab Libyan people in the Jamahiriyah and the fraternal Chadian people. The same source pointed out that since April, borders have been closed between the Jamahiriyah and Chad, and there have been no air or ground communications between the two countries. Consequently, no Libyan plane has crossed Chadian airspace.

The Arab Libyan source also denied news agency reports about "an incident" between an Egyptian submarine and a Libyan Navy unit off As-Sallum. The source said that the information media of the defeated president has been spreading such rumors for some time as a prelude for aggression against the Arab Libyan people, so the defeated president could cover up the explosive situation in Egypt following his disgraceful capitulation and signing of a treaty with the enemy.

The source stressed that these kinds of rumors are simply aimed at creating a climate of tension along the border between Egypt and Libya.

AS-SADAT ENVOY'S 'ABORTIVE' MISSION IN AFRICA REPORTED

LD011538 Tripoli JANA in English 1430 GMT 1 May 79 LD

[Text] Tripoli, May 1 JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY--The envoy of the defeated Egyptian president, Mamduh Salim, is currently on a tour to some of the African countries in an abortive attempt to persuade the countries that had severed relations with (Israel) to resume them.

The defeated Egyptian president is attempting to prevent African countries from severing relations with his regime, in solidarity with the Arab countries that had already done so. This hereby tightens the international grip of boycott against his isolated regime, especially as several African countries have refused to receive the Egyptian emissary in solidarity with the Arab countries. Amongst those countries are the Cameroon, Upper Volta, Mali and the Niger.

STATEMENT RELEASED ON SIERRA LEONE MINISTER'S VISIT

LD012032 Tripoli JANA in English 1714 GMT 1 May 79 LD

[Text] Tripoli, 1 May, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY--The following press statement was released today in Tripoli and Freetown on the visit of Mr. Abdulai Conteh, minister of foreign affairs of Sierra Leone, to the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah from 1-4 Jumadi al Thani, corresponding to April 28th-May 1, 1979.

The foreign minister of Sierra Leone, Dr. Abdulai Conteh, paid an official visit to the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah in the period from 1-4 Jumadi al Thani, 1388, corresponding to April 28th-May 1, 1979.

During this visit he conducted talks with Dr. 'Ali 'Abd as-Salam at-Turayki, the foreign secretary, and both reviewed the bilateral relations, the situation in the African Continent, the Arab causes and the current international issues.

With regard to bilateral relations, the two sides expressed satisfaction to the extent the relations have reached. They expressed their determination consolidate these brotherly relations in all fields to realize the goals the two brotherly people aspire for.

In the African field the two sides observed that the African Continent has been exposed to a number of problems and secessions which pave the way to international imperialism and monopolies to intervene and to inflict harm on the relations between its peoples and government in a bid to re-control their resources and capabilities. The two sides called upon all African states to adhere to their unity and to solve their problems in an African spirit within the framework of the Organization of African Unity--OAU. They affirmed that the African wisdom is capable of finding suitable solutions to all the problems which hinder the establishment of strong brotherly relations between the states of the continent.

The two sides affirmed their belief that armed struggle against imperialism and racism is the only way for the liberation of the African people. In this respect the two sides denounce the close cooperation between the racist regimes in southern Africa and occupied Palestine and consider that this cooperation is directed against the human values and the people's rights to self-determination, freedom and justice.

With regard to the question of the Western Sahara, the two sides affirm their full adherence to the principle of self-determination for the brotherly people of the Sahara in accordance with the resolutions of the UN and OAU.

The two sides denounced the imperialist attempts which work for the creation of military pacts and alliances between them and some African states, which threaten the security and peace and lead to the partition of these states. The two sides urged all the African states to refrain from joining such military pacts in accordance with the principles of the nonalined movement.

And in this respect, the two sides express their deep concern towards the dangerous developments between Tanzania and Uganda which have resulted in the overthrow of the Ugandan regime.

The two sides also condemn any foreign intervention in the internal affairs of any independent state. The two sides called for an Arab-African unity and consolidation affirming the importance of the joint role carried out by the Arab-African community towards the progress of civilization and world economy to be free and independent from domination and imperialist monopolies. The joint cooperation between the two communities will benefit the peoples of the Third World, and through the historical and geographical relations between the Arab and African communities they will be able to play a practical and effective role in the world arena in different fields.

After studying the Palestinian's cause carefully, the two sides expressed their deep regret towards the role played by Arab reactionaries cooperating with Zionism and imperialism aiming at liquidating this cause.

So, the two sides regard any agreement which excludes the Palestinian people under the leadership of PLO as null and void. The two sides affirm their will and determination to support the struggle of the Palestinian people for the return of their land and usurped rights.

The two sides affirm their unconditional support to all UN, Organization of African Unity and the Arab League resolutions and recommendations on the Palestinian cause. On the international level, the two sides affirm their commitment towards the charter and principles of the United Nations, and observe the need for amending the UN Charter to guarantee justice and equality amongst the member countries to abolish the veto and to implement a new world economic system to reserve the rights of the countries of the Third World, of sovereignty on their natural resources which guarantee world equity and justice.

During the visit, Dr 'Ali 'Abd at-Turayki showed the foreign minister of Sierra Leone the democracy practised in the Jamahiriyah in which the people possess wealth, power and weapons and what the revolution has achieved within and outside the country.

The foreign minister of Sierra Leone expressed his strong admiration for the great achievements taking place in the Jamahiriyah since the Great First of September Revolution; he also expressed his great thanks and appreciation for the brotherly reception he and the accompanying delegation were given in the Jamahiriyah. And finally, he invited Dr 'Ali 'Abd as-Salam at-Turayki, the foreign secretary, to visit Sierra Leone, and the latter accepted the invitation, the date of which will be assigned later.

Issued in Tripoli, on 4 Jumadi al Thani 1388.

SUDAN

PRESIDENT NUMAYRI GIVES MAY DAY SPEECH

JN012014 Khartoum SUNA in English 1800 GMT 1 May 79 JN

[Text] Khartoum, 1 May (SUNA)--On the occasion of May Day, Sudanese President Ja'far Numayri today greeted Sudanese workers and all workers of the world.

"May revolution has made of this day an occasion for ensuring achievements, increasing production and changing production relations for the benefit of the workers," the president said.

"Job classification and evaluation scheme which raised the minimum wages of workers is a step forward in insuring their future and the future of their families," said President Numayri. President Numayri said that the scheme came in line with the revolution's efforts to change workers' conditions.

Addressing the Sudanese workers, President Numayri said that the revolution is deeply concerned to rebuild the movement of workers trade unions to ensure their unity in building the country and realizing workers interests.

The president called on the Sudanese nation and the workers in particular to work hard to increase the production and to make use of all available resources for the progress of the Sudanese people.

"The economic stabilization is completely based on the efficiency and loyalty of the working people," the president said. "The closeness between the May revolution's allegiance to the workers, and the workers' loyalty to the revolution was the basis for past achievements and it will continue to be the base for future achievements," the president added.

The president called also on the Sudanese working people to continue their leading role during the current phase and to participate in all the conferences of the political organ (Sudanese Socialist Union) and to consolidate national unity.

"I pledge to you that we will not tolerate any dissident, conspirator or agent of any foreign power to disturb the security and estability of our people," the president said. We will guard the march of our people by the unity of our ranks, the president added.

At the end of his speech the president wished the Sudanese people and the People's Armed Forces all success and victory.

VICE PRESIDENT DISCUSSES GOVERNMENT'S FOREIGN POLICY

JN301846 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1745 GMT 30 Apr 79 JN

[Text] Khartoum, 30 April--Ar-Rashid at-Tahir, vice president and foreign minister, had declared that Sudan has called and is still calling for proclaiming the African Continent, the Red Sea and the Indian Ocean as denuclearized zones, and for keeping these areas free of international conflicts and designs. He added that Sudan's foreign policy is effectively participating in [words indistinct].

Speaking at the fourth national congress of the Sudanese Women's Association today, the vice president said that Sudan (?is living up) to its commitments to (?support) the United Nations and its bodies, particularly the General Assembly and the Security Council, to enable them to shoulder their responsibilities as stipulated in the UN Charter.

Vice President and Foreign Minister ar-Rashid at-Tahir asserted Sudan's faith in Arab solidarity and in joint Arab action, which constitute the mainstay for protecting the pan-Arab interests.

His excellency said that Sudan is committed to the objectives, as collectively approved by the Arab nation, to achie comprehensive peace. This peace cannot be achieved without full Israeli withdrawal from all the occupied Arab territories and without the regaining of Arab Jerusalem as it was before.

He pointed out that Sudan's course can be achieved through effective and positive participation in serving the Palestinian cause, serving the issues of development in the Arab homeland and serving full cooperation among the Arab countries, with the aim of achieving social and economic progress for all Arab people.

He stated that Sudan is currently conducting studies on the possible participation of a Sudanese police force with some African countries to replace [words indistinct] during the transitional period, during which the several elections are scheduled to take place in the Namibia region under UN auspices.

He asserted Sudan's commitment to the transfer of power to the African majority in Zimbabwe by peaceful legitimate means.

He said Sudan's policy of neighborliness has reaped good results for both Sudan and its neighbors. He said that Sudan enjoyed secure and calm borders with all its neighbors, a fact that enabled it to develop relations with the African countries neighboring Sudan.

His excellency described the resolutions of the 15th summit conference in Khartoum as historic, due to the many problems this conference solved.

In this regard, he referred to the decision made by President Numayri, in his capacity as OAU chairman, establishing a special administration to follow up on the summit conference resolutions. This administration has followed up on the stages of settlement in Western Sahara and on the Tanzanian-Ugandan conflict. He also lauded President Numayri's actions to contain this conflict, to preserve African blood and to strengthen the OAU principles and Charter. He said the president visited Kampala, Dar es Salaam and Zambia in order to become acquainted with the results of the barbaric raids launched by the racist regime in Zimbabwe. He added that Sudan will continue to shoulder its responsibilities in its capacity as OAU chairman.

VICE PRESIDENT TO ATTEND ISLAMIC MINISTERS CONFERENCE

JN011524 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1410 GMT 1 May 79 JN

[Excerpts] Khartoum, 1 May--Sudan will participate in the Islamic foreign ministers conference to be held 8-12 May in Pez, Morocco. The Sudanese delegation to this conference will be led by Ar-Rashid at-Tahir Bakr, vice president and foreign minister.

Al-Fatih Bisharah, Sudanese ambassador in Jiddah, will represent Sudan at the preliminary meeting to be held 6-7 May.

WESTERN SAHARA

INFORMATION MINISTER DENIES POLISARIO-MAURITANIA MEETINGS

LD020044 Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 2300 GMT 1 May 79 LD

[Text] Salem Ould Salek, minister of information of the Saharan Democratic Arab Republic, stated yesterday during a news conference that no negotiations with Mauritania will take place except within the framework of the Tripoli protocol agreement and the return of the part of the Sahara occupied by Mauritania. Ould Salek refuted reports which said that a Mauritanian delegation held talks with Saharan officials in Paris. He explained that the POLISARIO Front is in the Western Sahara and not in Paris.

As for the contacts between the African committee entrusted with the task of examining the Western Sahara issue and the POLISARIO Front, Ould Salek stated that this meeting is looked upon as very important. He explained that the OAU has a great responsibility in regard to the situation in the Western Sahara. He affirmed that this situation will mark a decisive point with regard to the foundations of the organization and particularly the question of respecting the borders inherited from the colonialist era.

Concerning the talks between Spanish Prime Minister Adolfo Suarez and POLISARIO Secretary General Muhammad 'Abd al-'Aziz, Ould Salek affirmed that these talks represent a historical encounter and that they provided an opportunity for the two sides to explain things to each other. So that everyone can shoulder his responsibilities. He recalled the attitude of the Spanish Government, about which he said that it had committed a grave error by signing the Madrid agreement and ceding a country over which it exercised no sovereignty. Thus it had flouted the resolutions of the United Nations.

Elsewhere, the Mauritanian Radio announced that the presidents of Nigeria and Mali are expected to arrive in Nouakchott in their capacity as members of the African committee in charge of looking into the Western Sahara question.

BEGIN INTERVIEWED ON TREATY, OTHER ISSUES

TA021146 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0805 GMT 2 May 79 TA

[Interview granted to Jerusalem Radio correspondent Shalom Qital by Israeli Prime Minister Menahem Begin on the occasion of Independence Day--recorded, date and place not specified]

[Text] [Question] Mr Prime Minister, every year, on Independence Day, on occasions of this sort, there are interviews with prime ministers of Israel. It is easy to begin an interview; the question is whether, Mr Prime Minister, you expect that this year, and over the next few years, we will come closer to and reach peace? This year it seems that this question is superfluous, for this reason I am asking only: Has peace come to Israel?

[Answer] Peace has come with the strongest and greatest of Israel's neighbors. Its name is Egypt. This is a turning point. We have signed a peace treaty, not a cease-fire or interim agreement. Such agreements have been known in the history of the period since we restored our independence in Eretz Yisra'el. In those days it was something important, but it was not peace. Generally, as we have learned, and we used to repeat this, beginning with the Six Day War, when the representatives of the United States did not yet accept this thesis of ours: After war comes peace and peace is expressed by a peace treaty. I myself remember a talk I had with the deputy secretary of state, somewhere, in November 1967 and I told him that we should aspire to Israel and the surrounding Arab countries signing a peace treaty.

[Question] You were then a minister in the national unity government.

[Answer] That is true, I visited Washington, I was received by the leaders of the United States and he, the deputy secretary of state, Mr Katzenbach himself, an expert in international law, asked me: What do you need a peace treaty for, why do you need it? And maybe you have proofs, quotes, books? Yes, of course, I told him, there are. For example, read the famous book on international law by Oppenheim, and there it says specifically that the accepted way, after wars, is a peace treaty. Nevertheless, the U.S. Government still did not accept that assumption.

During the time of this government, Secretary of State Vance went to Egypt and Cairo said: Why a peace treaty? Other ways can be found to make peace. A treaty is not required. And so, it was not so simple to get into the international consciousness that this time we were insisting on signing a peace treaty and we were demanding categorically that both sides should sign a peace treaty, until the moment came when Mr Vance went to Egypt, and said to the Government of Egypt and to other governments as well: Gentlemen, you will have to sign a peace treaty with the State of Israel, this is the accepted concept. That was a breakthrough. That is, we, when we began the negotiations with Egypt, did not stop demanding the signing of a peace treaty. That was agreed upon. Well, as you know, it took some time, about 14-15 months, until the day came when we signed the peace treaty. We ratified it in accordance with international law; we exchanged the instruments of the ratification; we brought it into validity.

But this is a fact and, without any doubt, a new fact in the history of the young Israel, that is, aged 31. This is the first time that we have signed a peace treaty. There are cynics who say: What is a peace treaty, a piece of paper, it can be torn up tomorrow. No, my friend. It is not so simple. This is the most important commitment a country can take upon itself. And here, we see, maybe with our mind's eye, the Ashdod's passage through the Suez Canal. When did such a thing happen?

They sent the Bat-Galim 25 years ago and it was stopped, it did not pass. Now, the Ashdod has passed, the flag of Israel waving over it, on both sides Egyptians cheering it. At that moment I saw the Ashdod's captain beaming joy and smiles with all his being. It was certainly an event.

In just over 3 weeks we will hand over Al-'Arish to Egypt and I will then say: We, for the sake of this peace, have made very dear sacrifices; but I am convinced, I believe with all my heart, that we have taken the correct road. And so we will hand over Al-'Arish to Egypt and President as-Sadat will go there and I will be there. The secretary of state, too, has been invited by President as-Sadat, with my agreement, to come and participate in that special event.

What will we do in Al-'Arish? First of all I will tell you: There will be a most moving event there. I do not know whether such a thing has ever happened before. President as-Sadat told me, one day, that wounded will come with him to Al-'Arish, Egyptian soldiers who were wounded in battles, disabled and so on. I had an idea. I phoned President as-Sadat and told him: If you are coming with wounded Egyptian soldiers, maybe you will agree that Israeli wounded soldiers should also come and the fighters from both sides will meet, those who were hurt themselves, shake hands and say: No more war. He agreed.

And there will be such a meeting. Together with myself, with the foreign minister and the minister of defense, who will come with me to Al-'Arish, there will be a group of 42 soldiers, Israeli fighters, wounded, disabled by war. And here they will meet with their Egyptian counterparts, wounded soldiers from both sides--a unique meeting. I am really speaking about this with some emotion. There we will declare open borders between the two countries.

This is a turning point; when could we go to an Arab country, when did the inhabitants of an Arab country come to us? Of course, there are technical problems here: Will visas be granted only for air travelers, or also for those traveling by land or sea? From our part, I would say to the Israeli nation: Please, be careful, do everything tactfully. For example, the capacity of the hotels in Cairo is still relatively limited. We say this: Do not stream in masses all at once; the Egyptians simply will not be able to receive you. With caution, with tact, it is a fact that they will be able to go to Cairo and we will, of course, receive the Egyptians as well. We are a people who have been receiving guests since the days of our father Abraham.

President as-Sadat and I will fly--this will be quite complicated, but we will solve the questions this involves--between Cairo and Ben-Gurion Airport, there and back, at the proposal and initiative of President as-Sadat, with my agreement, of course, to inaugurate the direct line between Lod and Cairo. The flight will take about 45 minutes instead of the 1 and 1/2 hours when they had to make a detour. I will fly in President as-Sadat's plane, at his invitation. We will also visit Beersheba together. President as-Sadat and I will speak to our students, that is, our younger generation. We will visit the mayor, a courtesy visit. I think this will be a turning point. At the end of May we will be living in another world, in comparison with the last 31 years.

And so, in order to conclude this--incidentally, you saw the minister of defense in Cairo--soon, the chief of staff will go. When did an Israeli chief of staff go to an Arab country to be received so beautifully by the commander of the army of the Arab country? Maybe this fact itself is proof of the change. They will shake hands, speak about common matters concerning the peace program connected with the withdrawal of our forces over 3 years to the international border between Eretz Yisra'el and Sinai--all these are events of great importance. We have a peace treaty, we have peace with Egypt.

A few minutes ago I heard President as-Sadat saying: All the rejectionists of the Arab countries will not stop us from maintaining a genuine, serious peace and normal coexistence between Egypt and Israel. He was not impressed by what Saudi Arabia did; he even accused it of bribing other Arab countries. He was not impressed by the behavior of the Soviet Union or the million marchers in Baghdad; he was simply not impressed. He has made peace with us. We always wanted peace; we made peace with him. This is a seed; it must continue to grow. We will do all possible for it to blossom and grow, this seed, but certainly on the 31st Independence Day we have genuine reason for joy. I suggest that we rejoice. There is reason to do so.

This does not mean that we have solved our problems with other countries. There is Syria, there is Jordan, behind them Iraq, Saudi Arabia. But let us count up these nations; after all, they are less than half the population of Egypt. They are no danger to our existence.

Of course, if, Heaven forbid, they attack us, we will know how to defend ourselves. Generally we defend ourselves by a counteroffensive, and we do not want such a war, such an attack and the victory springing from it, but they do not threaten our existence.

There is a new situation in Israel. We will continue to aspire to peace with all our neighbors, but we now have peace, on the basis of a peace treaty, with the greatest and most important of the Arab countries. This is a turning point in the history of the Middle East.

[Question] You speak about the fact that the peace treaty with Egypt will be valid and in existence despite the opposition of such countries as Syria, Jordan and Saudi Arabia. Will the treaty be valid and credible even if we do not reach agreement with Egypt on the autonomy issue?

[Answer] I think that we will reach understanding with Egypt. Why should we assume that there will not be agreement? But I will not conceal from you that this will be a serious, maybe even a difficult, problem. It may be that we will bring our program, we will decide on it over the next 2 weeks, and the Egyptians will bring their program, and both programs will be different, maybe there will even be contradictions between them. It may be. Why do I hope that we will nevertheless come to an agreement? First, I know exactly what we want and all that we want fits in with the Camp David agreement.

[Question] What do we want?

[Answer] We want there to be no border within western Eretz Yisra'el. We want to give full autonomy to the Arab inhabitants of Judaea, Samaria and Gaza. We want security for the Jews of Eretz Yisra'el. We want the Jews and the Arabs in Eretz Yisra'el to live in peace, in honesty, in fairness and in justice. However, it is obvious that we have the right to settle in Eretz Yisra'el. We will not stop Arabs, if they are our citizens, and we will give them a free option to choose their citizenship: If they want to keep their citizenship of today, we will not impose our citizenship on them. This is also an approach of openness, genuine liberalism. There has been no such thing in other countries when a certain territory has been passed from hand to hand. This is how we behave and I hope that, on this basis, it will be possible to come to an agreement in accordance with what we took upon ourselves at Camp David.

You should know, Mr Qital, my friend, that we will maintain the peace treaty as we signed it, we will maintain every word written in the Camp David agreement.

Therefore we insisted, during the exchange of ratification instruments, on that word full autonomy for the inhabitants--and not what is called, in English, residents, [last word in English]--that is of Judaea and Samaria, as was agreed with the President of the United States to write, to say, that where it is written the West Bank, we call it Judaea and Samaria and so on. [as heard] But I am not concealing that there may be difficulties. This has no connection with the peace treaty between us and Egypt. There can be no connection. The peace treaty between ourselves and Egypt is nondependent. Nowhere is it written that there is a dependence between the peace treaty and, let us say, Jordan's incorporation, as is written in the Camp David agreement. Jordan must join in the peace process, it must even conduct negotiations with us, together with Egypt, over the autonomy arrangements. Jordan is not joining in. Is Egypt saying: Because of this, we are canceling the peace treaty?

We want an agreement on the autonomy arrangements. Of course, an agreement always depends on both sides. But we have a little time. Negotiations, according to the agreement, should last for a year. If there is an agreement, the the elections to the administrative council--it is an administrative council, it is worth emphasizing what is written in the Camp David agreement, administrative, that is not legislative, and the difference between the two institutions is clear to everyone, I do not have to explain it--and if we come to an agreement during the year, following the agreement elections should be held to the administrative council, democratic ones, free ones, secret, and then the autonomy must be put into operation.

What did we write in the joint letter of President as-Sadat and myself to President Carter? As expeditiously as possible. [last four words in English] Note that today in the agreement between ourselves and Egypt and that between ourselves and the United States, there is no target date, as it was called. The Egyptians demanded a target date, and the Americans supported them. We refused to accept a target date. We explained this to the Americans and they accepted our explanation. I will also, now, repeat that explanation, since it is important that the citizens of Israel know, because on that issue we were under quite serious pressure. When I say pressure, I do not mean any threats, that they would do something bad to us if we did not accept this or that demand, but psychological pressure, as between friends. Again they demanded this and said why will you not accept such a thing, it is good, it is logical and so on. No. We did not accept any of those reasons. What was our explanation?

Imagine to yourselves that we set what is called a target date. After a year--or at the end of 1979, as was proposed to us at the end of 1978--autonomy must be put into operation. We told the Americans--I made this claim to Mr Vance, and he did not accept it when I was in New York, but he did accept it when I was in Washington--in the presence of the President of the United States I claimed: Dear friends, when the PLO hears that there is a target date, what will it do up to that date in order to prevent the operation of the autonomy, which it rejects out of hand, without reservations, which it hates, and, in the wake of the agreement, is trying to cancel by killing Jews, men, women and children? What will i t not do? After all, it will use its Kalashnikovs, its rifles. It will kill any Arab who hints that he is prepared to take part in the negotiations. By a target date you will, in fact, prevent the establishment of an autonomy. After all, we want it to be established, you want this and we, the initiators, want it.

It needed several months, but we insisted on this claim and, as you see, finally President as-Sadat and I signed a letter to President Carter, with agreement in advance of the Americans, that there will not be a target date.

There is one date for the holding of negotiations--a year. That is not a short time. But, following the year, or following the agreement which will be achieved during the year, there is no target date: as expeditiously as possible. [last four words in English]

As expeditiously as possible, that is not a date. We do not, Heaven forbid, mean to cheat anyone and say that, as expeditiously as possible, that means over 3 years. No. That is not our interpretation. But there is no date. And so, we have time, we have no reason to hurry, we certainly do not have any reason to be angry, to get excited.

We know exactly what we are doing. A program is being prepared. If all goes well, when on Thursday the committee of the 11 ministers will meet, I will bring a completed program with its two sections: full autonomy for the Arab inhabitants of Judaea, Samaria and Gaza, and our rights in Judaea, Samaria and Gaza; and the problem of security. If the committee approves or, as is certain, provides amendments, or changes formulations, as is the habit with us in our work in a democratic institution, after we decide we will not keep the matter secret. We will publish it even before we go to the meeting with the Egyptians. We will also inform the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Security Committee before we go to Beersheba for the first meeting of the two delegations which will be headed, this time, by the representative of Israel; that is, the minister of the interior. When the joint committee meets in Al-'Arish, the representative of Egypt will head it. No representative of a third country will conduct these meetings. The representatives of the two countries will conduct them alternately. This is also something quite positive.

And so why should we go round in circles worrying, if I may put it like that? Let us wait for the negotiations. We will conduct them quietly, calmly, in the awareness of our justification. I hope that we will indeed achieve an agreement, maybe after negotiations, and they may also be negotiations with difficulties. That is natural.

[Question] You said that the government will publish the decisions concerning the autonomy before the discussions begin. How will...

[Answer] Excuse me for interrupting you, I want to say something here. Let us assume that the government decided not to publish; the matter would in any case be publicized. Thus, I prefer official publication to a leak.

[Question] And where will you publicize it, in the Knesset?

[Answer] No. I think we will go to the Foreign Affairs and Security Committee. We do not need the approval of the Knesset before negotiations are held. If the Knesset decides, then it will be possible to hold negotiations. We must hold them honestly, but I can say that this is how we behaved with the peace agreement. If we achieve an agreement on the autonomy arrangements between Egypt and Israel, before we sign this agreement we will present it for the Knesset's approval. That I can say with certainty. At any rate, that is my opinion, this is what I will recommend to the Cabinet. Since we will decide in the committee of the 11 ministers and since the Cabinet will approve the recommendations on the program--and since in any case it must be brought to the Egyptians and it must be brought to the Americans--why should we try to make a secret out of it? There is no reason.

[Question] No, on the contrary, I would like to recommend, maybe for the future, that it is really worth publicizing and it will solve many problems...

[Answer] Maybe we should hold a news conference in the Cabinet's meeting room?

[Question] Not a bad suggestion...

[Answer] There will not be any leaks.

[Question] Mr Prime Minister, you mentioned the PLO, Ashaf, and how you presented your claims to the U.S. representatives. Do you not think that the United States might hold negotiations with the PLO, officially or unofficially?

[Answer] I thought to myself recently, why do Jews and citizens of Israel use the term in Hebrew, Ashaf? Listen to the words, not the letters: the organization for the liberation of Palestine--shocking. Is that a liberating organization? It is an organization of murderers. I would really suggest calling it Amaf: The organization of Palestinian murderers. That is the right name...

[Question] PLO is the same capitals, but...

[Answer] I say PLO with a certain amount of irony, because, after all, I am speaking Hebrew, not English. Thus I say, outside, that is what it is called and when I write a letter to the U.S. President or the secretary of state, I always use the letters so-called PLO [last three words in English], what is called PLO. Give it the name of Amaf, that has a very precise sound. And so, you asked me about that murderers organization. Well, what do you want to know from me?

[Question] [words indistinct] I am only asking whether the United States is likely to hold, at all, negotiations with the PLO? Are there any signs that are worrying you on this matter?

[Answer] Worrying--everything is worrying. For example, the United States gave a visa to one of the leaders of Amaf, the murderers organization. What is his name, Al-Hut, I think; he is a sort of intelligent [last word in English] of the murderers organization; he speaks English with an Oxford accent. With great hypocrisy, he said that he was against terrorism but was in favor of armed struggle. I wrote a letter to the secretary of state, in words suitable to an exchange of letters between us, and protested against the granting of that visa. And I wrote, after Brussels and after Nahariya, and asked the secretary of state: You are giving a visa and you are permitting one of the leaders of that murderers organization to appear before U.S. students? What has happened to you? I did not conceal our dissatisfaction.

I asked the secretary of state to end Al-Hut's stay, but he answered that since my letter arrived a few days before the 22d of last month and the visa was up to the 22d, in fact, that man, Al-Hut, was due to leave the United States within a few days. Thus, it was hard to change matters. But I asked the secretary of state to be kind enough to note that this matter shocked public opinion in Israel and all our people. And I asked him in the future to be kind enough to consult with us on these matters. This is the duty of the United States, according to the interim agreements which we signed with the United States and which state specifically that the commitments given are valid.

But the main thing I said was that it was not just a matter of formality, of relying on agreements--of course, agreements must not be violated. I also added the gravest words: You must consult with us on such matters because the reference is to an organization of murderers which aspires, according to its declarations, its so-called charter, to destroy the State of Israel. Although it will never achieve this, it still murders little girls.

Is this a fighting organization? Is it a liberating organization? I tell you, on the basis of our experience in the war of liberation, in the underground, and on the basis of reading a little in the pages of history, since the days of the SA and the SS, there has been no armed organization as base as that Amaf, that PLO, as it is called in foreign languages. It is one of the basest organizations ever established in humanity, apart from the Nazis. Here you have such a horror: to murder a 4-year-old girl, and after murdering her, from that base cowardice, to raise his hands and surrender because it is the assumption that then he will save his life.

I am still telling about what I wrote to the secretary of state: And you will bring into America, your great, free country, leaders of this organization and give them the opportunity to appeal to the U.S. young generation? Consult with us: I hope there will be such a consultation in the future. I cannot speak for the U.S. government. And then we will say what we have to say. Well, I also said, on the U.S. television, that one day, whatever declarations there are by that Amaf, the organization of murderers, it will be a black day for the whole of free humanity. I hope we will never come to that black day.

[Question] Mr Prime Minister, on the struggle against terror: This week the Cabinet opened a new page on this issue by the decision to permit the death penalty for terrorists. There was a great argument in the Cabinet; that is no secret. Many ministers were against that decision; the majority was small. Why, nevertheless, do you think this is the way?

[Answer] First of all, let us speak about the majority. I read headlines in the press about the minute division. Don't tell me about a small majority. I [words indistinct] we have a parliamentary democracy. Churchill said, in democracy, one is sufficient. What does that mean? A majority of one vote is a majority. If that majority does not decide, then there is a dictatorship of one. He meant a majority of one vote. And that is enough, certainly. Had we received a majority of one vote, I would have regarded that as a majority. And what is the rule? The majority decides and the minority accepts the decision even when it is opposed to a certain decision. The majority speaks in the government's name, not the minority.

Today I can tell you that the government decided on that possibility which I will soon explain. Not a majority; the government decided, with a majority of two votes. That is exactly the same thing as if the whole government, without a single opponent, had made the decision. There is no difference. The majority speaks in the name of the whole democratic institution; that is, the government made the decision.

Now, why did I initiate it? I definitely take upon myself full responsibility, both for the initiative and for voting in favor, for one of my colleagues said to me: You know, my vote was decisive. I told him: Every vote here is decisive. It might be your vote, it might be that of someone else. They wrote about that, papers such as 'AL HAMISHMAR, preachers of morality, about trampling on democracy. I say again, a majority is a majority. Do you know with what majority the French Third Republic was declared?

[Question] One vote?

[Answer] One vote. Do you know by what majority Louis XVI was executed?

[Question] One vote?

[Answer] Exactly. I can quote further things that were accepted with a majority of one vote and the majority decided. And so, the government decided. I wanted it to be like that and the reason is very simple: The decision to instruct the legal adviser and the chief military lawyer not to demand the death sentence, even if the man is recognized as someone who murdered, someone who murdered a little girl, that decision was made in October 1967. I can understand, that was after the fantastic victory of the Six Day War. There had not yet been any murders of the sort that have happened over recent years, and the government--I was in it--did not want, under such certain conditions, to use the existing law.

But many years have passed since then. I have expressed my opinion in the Knesset and in the Likud faction and on various other occasions, that that decision should be canceled. This is not something that came to me, as I have heard said from some sort of emotion after what happened in Nahariya. I will not conceal from you that the Nahariya incident shocked me just as it did any Jew with a heart, but for years I have been claiming that that decision should be canceled. I ask a simple question: Why ban the possibility of demanding the maximum punishment for the most grave cases of acts of inhuman cruelty adding crime upon crime against humanity, as defined in all the international charters? Why? This still does not say that such a punishment will be carried out. That has to be decided. The court, the court of justice, has to decide whether to carry it. Do we not trust our judges?

A few days ago, on the threshold of Independence Day, I concluded the debate in the Cabinet concerning the Bedouins in the Negev and the grave comments made by the Supreme Court when, as the Supreme Court of Justice, bringing judgement against several civil servants and so on, and my conclusion was as follows: The government supports the principle of the supremacy of the law over all the executive authorities of the state, including the government itself, and I request all the ministers to be scrupulous about any authority under their supervision fulfilling any order of the court, without reservation, and implement it faithfully. That is our principle.

And if we believe, in the greatest national affairs, in the court--there are judges in Jerusalem--I even tell representatives of other countries: Should we not rely on them to give a just verdict, when they are faced with such an accused? If they decide not to give him the death sentence, their decision will be maintained, but if three judges in Israel come to the conclusion that something most grave and inhuman has occurred, the existing law permits the passing of the death sentence on such a base murderer. Prevent even the judgement? For heaven's sake, what has happened here for so many years? Did we not give these murders an insurance certificate? Nothing will happen to them if they, well, as happened there, raise their arms, save their lives, and we put them in prison. Of course, sentence them to life imprisonment, nobody spends the whole of his life in prison. I do not remember if such a thing has ever happened.

Not to permit even the very fact of submitting such a demand to a court of justice and the judges? Not to permit them to consider that possibility? What they decide will be the decision. That is exactly what we decided and we will not give instructions, not to the court, of course, nor to the legal adviser. I want to explain here, because sometimes people do not realize, the legal adviser in Israel has a special status--not legally, it is not written in any law, but it is the custom and the custom has the force of law. This is also one of the rules in law. He has a special status. The government does not give him orders to submit, or not to submit, a particular claim.

To order an arrest or not to order an arrest--this is his authority. He is not under the orders of the government. The government does not give him orders. And so up to now we have not relied on the legal adviser, on his special status. We have not relied on the court but the executive authority banned, put a complete ban on, the very fact of the claim to the court. Completely absurd; it shrieks to the high heavens; simply not reasonable. I wanted to tell you here, in a comment, maybe a marginal one: I was really shocked at the behavior of the Alinement, with its two parties. After all, I read the three decisions of the Alinement government. The second decision already leaves the possibility, in a specific event, to decide on the death penalty. What did we decide? In a specific case it will be possible to decide on such a penalty and the court will decide.

There is a third decision which is altogether a real horror, I just do not want to repeat its contents again. But the main point is that the Alinement is now behaving with a degree of false piety; I do not want to broaden the argument and say hypocrisy. By itself, it nevertheless decided once to permit, in a specific case, the passing of the death penalty and now it accuses us: What have you done? You have brought in the death penalty again. We have not brought in the death penalty; there is a law permitting the passing of the death penalty--on Jews too by the way. For betrayal, a Jewish soldier or a Jew, for betrayal to the enemy, can pay with his life, if a court of justice comes to the conclusion that he is guilty and if it passes that penalty on him, according to the law. What we did is to cancel the ban against deciding on that penalty and that means, and to allow it to be decided upon in a trial, in a court of law.

[Question] You mentioned disputes, Mr Prime Minister, disputes with the Alinement, with political rivals. There are also internal disputes. A year ago you spoke about faults within the government. What happened to those faults. Are you satisfied now?

[Answer] A lot has been remedied.

[Question] Is that so?

[Answer] Not everything, though. We still have a plague of leaks. Also, the discussion we have just been talking about was partly leaked and distorted. For instance, I read an item in HA'ARETZ claiming I had said, as it were, that I am the supreme commander of the army. Whoever wrote this is an ignoramus, not that he meant it. He just does not know the law in the State of Israel. It never occurred to me to claim that I, in my capacity as prime minister, am the supreme commander of the army.

What is our legal position? The government is the supreme commander of the army. The chief of staff is the chief commander of the army. The defense minister is the government's representative to the chief of staff and the IDF general staff. The government is the supreme commander. As prime minister I certainly have authority over the army, naturally. However, how could I say that the prime minister is the supreme commander of the army? This is completely absurd. I am amazed that his paper should print such an absurdity without publishing a correction. I did not want to get into denials. There is no limit to it if I have to deny false reports in the press. However, on this occasion I wanted to put things right.

Therefore, the faults you have talked about have been corrected to a large extent. I think we have a very good government. There is still a plague of leaks; we must overcome it. It is simply not nice to leak government discussions. Leaks are, to a certain extent, distorted. I am going to talk to my colleagues.

However, what I refuse to do--I am telling you this in advance--is to allow members of the Cabinet or the Knesset to undergo interrogation. You must know: When I was a member of the national unity government, on one occasion a member of the security services came to me, following Mrs Golda Meir's request, may she rest in peace, and told me: (keal ishna), [last two words in unidentified language, presumably Aramaic] the prime minister has authorized me to put to you some questions concerning a leak made 1 or 2 days ago. I told him: My friend, I do not refuse to answer your questions, I refuse to listen to them. Go and tell this to the prime minister and tell her I will talk to her on this matter.

Ever since then I have insisted on this opinion. No members of the Cabinet or Knesset will be interrogated. Do you know why? Because, as I have already told you, first of all, I have faith in the supremacy of the law regarding the executive branch. At the same time, I am for the principle of the supremacy of the civilian elected branch over all the armed forces of the state. The security services--they also have weapons, but that is not the point, the point is that they are the element of power of the state, as necessitated by their role--if they are situated over the civilian elected branch--the Knesset and the government--if they are authorized to interrogate members of the Cabinet or Knesset, that will be the end of democracy. I said so to the late Mrs Meir, may we all live long. She understood my views and the issue was taken off the agenda. I just want to emphasize: As long as I am prime minister no minister or Knesset member will be interrogated by the security services. No lie detectors will be put on the chests of ministers as was the case in the previous government. I must tell you, they did not feel ashamed: senior officials, members of the cabinet--as far as I recall--all echelons...

[Question] Then there were such incidents...

[Answer] Veteran civil servants, one of them a worker in the Defense Ministry--I do not want to mention his name--one of the most loyal civil servants. He has been working in the Defense Ministry since the time of Ben-Gurion and is still playing a central role there. A lie-detector test was administered to check whether he had lied or not. I am telling you: I am ashamed and embarrassed until this very day. Nothing like this will happen among us, I will not agree to it. However, we should persuade people that leaks are very inappropriate. Friends place their confidence in you. Are there not secrets in commercial companies? Are there not secrets in newspaper editorials? Does not an editorial staff meet and adopt decisions not to publish? Can a government which deals with important national issues not be certain that things are not being leaked in a distorted manner or not at all? This is not nice. I will talk to my colleagues...

[Question] You are expanding on the issue of leaks. I wish to know what is happening about overt matters such as declarations made by ministers. For instance, Foreign Minister Moshe Dayan made a statement which worried some of your friends. There were open differences of opinion between ministers on the matters of settlement and other issues. Are these not faults?

[Answer] These things cannot be prevented. When I spoke to my colleagues regarding the foreign minister's announcement, I told them frankly: In my opinion, the formulation of his statement was not appropriate. He is also aware of my opinion on this matter. He also assumed I would regard the formulation of his statement as inappropriate. I did not talk about it with him, I did not make any remarks. I am not in a hurry to criticize my colleagues. So, what did I say? Nobody is immune against making slips of the tongue, including the three persons sitting in this room now: You two from the radio and myself. Everybody can make a slip of the tongue. Sometimes it is inevitable.

For instance, the defense minister again said something in Cairo and mentioned the word PLO. Everybody jumped at him immediately. I did not jump at him. I did not phone him, as one of the newspapers reported. He called me and said: Perhaps you would like to make some announcement. I said: What announcement? What are you talking about? Forget it. Whatever happened, it was not serious. It can happen, it is inevitable, it is human. Nietzche would say "human, very human" as he wrote in his famous book. We must accept these kinds of things, they are not that terrible. However, the public, ourselves and our friends should be taught not to jump at such a slip of the tongue as if they were discovering some hidden treasure. Woe on us, look what happened! Are we leaving the Golan Heights because this or another formulation was inappropriate? Well, are we also holding negotiations with the PLO murderers because someone unintentionally had a slip of his tongue? There is nothing of the kind. Government policy is the determining factor. You are very well aware that we will descend from the Golan Heights. We have told this to everybody, we have never made a secret of it.

[Question] Also in exchange for peace with Syria?

[Answer] There is no such thing as an exchange for peace. There is no peace without security. Without the Golan Heights there is no security. Therefore, we will make peace while we remain on the Golan Heights. We will not hold any negotiations with the so-called PLO, with Amaf, with this murderous organization. This is and will remain our policy. This is the agreed policy of the government, there are no differences of opinion. You have heard both the foreign and defense ministers on this issue following their previous statements. People must assume that if there is sometimes a slip of the tongue--and it could happen to everybody--they should not jump immediately, cry wolf, demand a debate, submit no-confidence motions or demands for dismissals and so on. They should wait for an explanation, nothing terrible has happened; and you, too, the critics, can commit a slip of the tongue. Well, were I to go into details now you would have heard very interesting things.

[Question] Since you do not go into details, when you returned from the signing of the peace treaty in Washington you said you intended to devote your time--or part of it, at least--to domestic issues: economic and social problems.

[Answer] First, I would like to say that I have already started dealing with these issues, I have not postponed it. I have met with the finance minister. He told me and later said publicly that he assumed there would be no more price hikes or, as he put it, no further penalties will be imposed on the public. I was very happy to hear that from him. I asked him: What will happen with these price hikes? These price hikes are very serious.

[Question] Do you feel them personally?

[Answer] My wife tells me about it every now and then. She lives on a budget. She goes out shopping and brings back a basket and says to me, for instance: Yesterday this basket was worth 100 Israeli pounds. Today it is worth 130 Israeli pounds. I am not complaining: Today the salary of the prime minister is relatively high. We used to receive a salary of a Knesset member, the income was lower for 30 years. Today, we are living on a prime minister's salary and my wife, who is a housewife, sometimes tells me her grudges. I tell the finance minister about it. It is inevitable.

Afterwards, I dealt with the problem of poor neighborhoods, the shortage of housing. I also initiated what is today called overseas project renewal [last two words in English] for the rehabilitation of the slums. Together with the housing and construction minister we are dealing with this issue very seriously. He explicitly told me that he expected to erect some tens of thousands of housing units in the course of this year. Next year and every year, another thousands will be erected. So, today I have grounds to hope--so we decided to freeze public construction--that in the next 2 and 1/2 years, until the end of the ninth Knesset term, thousands of housing units will be built in Israel. To a large degree, we will solve the problem by then, but not in its entirety. However, there is no doubt I take great interest in these problems.

What preoccupies me are the following: frequent price hikes, shortage of housing, the solution of the slum problem, large families living in 1 and 1/2 rooms or 2 room apartments. This is horrible. I cannot tolerate this situation. However, this cannot be solved overnight, not even in a month, not even in a year. We must collect the astronomic sum of $1.2 billion for this purpose in order to solve the slum problem once and for all. This is not a simple task. The Jewish people in the diaspora must raise $600 million and the Government of Israel will allot the same sum for this project, what is called in English "matching." Well, to raise $600 million is a very serious task, in addition to the United Jewish Appeal and the bonds. However, this project arouses great enthusiasm among the Jews in the diaspora and they promised to collect this money. It will take a few years. We will improve housing conditions my friend, I promise you, I have no doubt about it. I am taking a great interest and watching this issue.

There are some other things. I want to tell you what really worries me very much: Phenomena have taken place among the Jews in the State of Israel unprecedented in the history of the Jewish people during centuries and many generations. The Jewish people, we are anti-chauvinistic, I am not saying it is the best people in the world. It has its weaknesses, there are good and bad Jews--this is an historic fact: The Jewish people have never known certain types of crimes. The Jewish people never knew what murder, rape, drunkenness were. These phenomena exist. I want to refer particularly to crimes of rape: We must uproot this beastly crime. The woman in the State of Israel must be safe walking down the streets late at night or at dawn. Nobody should harm her. If the Justice Ministry proposes life imprisonment for this sort of crime one of these days I will strongly recommend it. As a Knesset member, I also initiated a draft bill which was accepted on gang rape for which the penalty is--if I recall correctly--20 years of imprisonment. The most severe punishments should be imposed on this sort of crime, this is the most beastly crime. It is like murder--murder of the woman's soul, the assassinations of her spirit, killing her as a human being. Nevertheless, the truth must be stated that this crime is relatively common--it must be uprooted. We will make our utmost efforts in order to uproot it so that a woman can be safe.

As for drunkenness: The Jewish people did not know this problem. In simhat Torah [celebrations of the Torah] a Jew would drink a sip and dance around. However, to get drunk and reach the point of losing one's senses--there was never such a thing. Today it exists. There is also the use of drugs which is also a severe form of drunkenness, especially among youngsters. These are most worrying things. We must improve our quality of life: to improve our manners, mutual respect, a nice Eretz Yisra'el, a nice Israeli people--this is what we should strive for.

[Question] Mr Prime Minister, toward the end of this interview I want to connect two issues: immigration and the Soviet Union. The Soviet Union has recently released seven prisoners of Zion whom you had the honor to welcome in Israel, and there is immigration, not only from the Soviet Union but in general. How will the State of Israel survive without immigration?

[Answer] Who says without immigration? Immigration will increase. Immigration is what the French call Israel's raison d'etre; Israel would vanish without immigration. This is the reason for the establishment of the state, the essence of our existence is in the return to Zion. We must double the number of Jews in Eretz Yisra'el at last during the present generation--I could not exactly state the number of years--however, we definitely must bring the population of Israel to reach 6 or 7 million Jews at least. Do you know that during the period of the second temple there were 8 million inhabitants in Eretz Yisra'el? Do you know that in Holland--which is not much bigger than western Eretz Yisra'el--there are some 14 million inhabitants and in Belgium there are some 10 million inhabitants? There is room here to double the Jewish population. What are my reasons for hoping so? There are two: the Soviet Union. Look, my friend. This year, we will have some 50,000 Jews of Soviet extraction.

There is, however, the problem of the drop-outs in Vienna. We must act to prevent it and I hope we achieve good results. Yet, 50,000 immigrants in 1 year? The largest number so far was in 1973, during the year of the Yom Kippur War--34,000 immigrated. During the last month 4,400 left the Soviet Union; that means some 50,000 per year. I hope this number increases.

Immigration from the West will increase now, I have no doubt about it, mainly because of the peace. After the Yom Kippur War people were afraid, they were not certain about the future. Today, there are no such fears. The State of Israel exists and will continue to exist. This is a powerful and beautiful country. This morning I flew in a helicopter to the Upper Galilee and back to Jerusalem. I am telling you, this is a beautiful and good country. Everything is green and it is wonderful to tour our country now and see its springtime blossoming. Well, our country has magnetic power. In Haifa I met a group of tourists and asked them: How do you like our country? The Americans, when you come to visit them, like to say: Do you like our country? So now I retort: How do you like our country? Beautiful, [last word in English] a pretty country.

Immigration will increase from the United States as well. In the last year 2,200 Jews arrived here from the United States. This is a small number, but still it is a few thousand. I hope immigration increases from Canada, France and South America. There are several million potential Israeli citizens there. There will be a larger immigration--again, I want to say: Immigration, the return to Zion, are the reasons for the establishment and the existence of the State of Israel.

[Question] I included another question about the Soviet Union. Do you feel any new wind blowing from the direction of the Soviet Union?

[Answer] If there is such a wind then it is blowing by way of the United States. Yes, I think there are some changes. For example; the number of people allowed to leave the Soviet Union, the release of several prisoners of Zion. Undoubtedly the struggle should continue. All the prisoners of Zion must be released and I hope this will take effect. President Carter personally promised me to take care of this problem. We have not neglected it, we dealt with it day and night until we saw the release of these seven spiritual heroes--all of them will come.

I told the wives of some of these seven prisoners: You will see, they will come. Now they remind me of that. I had to encourage them from time to time. I said this with absolute certainty. All of them will come, all of them will be released. Now we must act for the right to immigrate of all those who wish to do so, and we are making efforts in that direction as well.

[Question] What about relations between Israel and the Soviet Union?

[Answer] Today there are no diplomatic relations with the Soviet Union. The Russians must take the initiative for the renewal of these relations. They severed diplomatic relations after the 6-day war with no justification. If they can live without these relations, so can we. This is not a tragedy. However, I think it would be in both countries' interest to have diplomatic relations even if it involves mutual harsh criticism. These things happen, you know. If such an initiative comes along, I have no doubt that--if I am still prime minister then--I will demand that the Soviet Union tell us it will permit every Jew who wishes to do so to immigrate to Israel while hoping this will not constitute an obstacle. If the initiative comes from Moscow we can renew diplomatic relations. We would be very interested in this. However, it could not happen without receiving guarantees for free immigration from the Soviet Union.

[Question] Mr Prime Minister, I thank you very much and have a nice holiday.

[Answer] Thank you, a very nice holiday to the Israeli people.

TEHRAN REPORTS KILLING OF AYATOLLAH MOTAHHARI

LD012314 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 2230 GMT 1 May 79 LD

[Text] His Eminence the Ayatollah Morteza Motahhari, professor at the College of Divinity, was martyred at about midnight tonight. He was assassinated. Accordi to a PARS report, Ayatollah Motahhari, a professor at the College of Divinity and one of the national and religious leaders, was leaving the home of Dr Sahabi when he was shot by an unknown group and severely wounded in the head.

Latest reports indicate that Colonel Mojallali, the head of the police, has confirmed this incident, saying: Responsibility for the assassination of Prof Morteza Motahhari was claimed by the Forghan group, but no further information has so far been received from this group.

3 May Funeral

LD020940 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0730 GMT 2 May 79 LD

[Text] The following statement was issued by the government today: While expressing deep regret for the martyrdom of Morteza Motahhari which took place in Tehran at 2240 on 1 May, and condemning the terrorist and treacherous conspiracies of the antirevolution agents, it is hereby announced that to pay tribute and honor to the status and services of that martyr, Thursday 3 May--that is tomorrow--will be a public holiday.

[Signed] The Provisional Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran.

No doubt the martyrdom of the great professor, Ayatollah Morteza Motahhari will give new blood to our valiant and uncompromising nation, and will strengthen the pace and determination of the monotheist revolution, notwithstanding the immature counter-revolutionary imagination, and will unite the sons of the Islamic revolution in one rank in their effort to safeguard their monotheist path. The funeral bier of this great fortress of faith and conviction will be carried on the shoulders of the Muslim masses with the cry of "God is Great" and the slogan of monotheism at 0800 tomorrow, and we will be witnesses of this revolutionary and monotheist solidarity. The funeral will start tomorrow at the Imam Khomeyni Mosque, the former Shah Mosque.

STATEMENT ISSUED ON SEVERANCE OF RELATIONS WITH EGYPT

LD011525 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 1 May 79 LD

[Text] Here is a Foreign Ministry statement pertaining to the severance of Iran's relations with Egypt:

In the name of the Almighty. The root cause of the crisis that for 31 years has driven the Middle East region to fire and bloodshed and imposed four devastating wars upon the people of the region has been the lack of attention to the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people and not taking their existence into account. It is obvious that without identifying the roots and causes of the Palestine tragedy it would not be possible to remedy the matter and no peripheral move could establish peace and understanding in the region and the world.

The treacherous Egyptian-Israeli treaty, which has been concluded disregarding the legitimate demands of the Palestinian nation and the interests of the Islamic community, is tantamount to sanctioning international Zionism's propensity for committing aggression and trampling underfoot the rights of the Palestinian people and of other Arab brothers whose territories have been subjected to Israeli aggression. The agreement which has been drawn up by the present Egyptian Government and the usurping Israeli Government under the supervision and domination of the United States of America will result in nothing other than entrenching Israel in the occupied Arab territories, stabilizing it as a bastion of colonialist policies in the region and subjecting Muslim people to enslavement, abjectness and wretchedness.

The provisional Government of the Iranian Islamic Republic, while expressing its full support for the Palestinian nation and while supporting the fraternal Muslim Arab nations who have refused to accept this imposed peace and bearing in mind the aspiration and the wish of the Muslim Iranian nation to wrest Jerusalem from the clutches of the Israeli usurpers, cannot remain silent at this point in time with regard to the lost rights of Arab brothers. Thus, at a meeting on 30 April 1979 between the Egyptian ambassador and the foreign minister, the Iranian Government expressed its views with regard to the anti-Islamic and anti-Arab policy of the present Egyptian Government and informed the Egyptian ambassador of its decision to break off diplomatic relations.

This decision, inspired by the great Islamic revolution of the Iranian people, is compatible with the most fundamental bases of Islamic ideology and is aimed at implementing the views of the distinguished leader of the revolution, Imam Khomeyni, which have been communicated to the Foreign Ministry through a command. The provisional Government of the Iranian Islamic Republic deems it necessary to reaffirm the fact that the severance of relations with the present Egyptian Government is in no way a move against the friendly and fraternal Egyptian nation. The Iranian nation, while expressing sympathy for the valiant, struggling and fraternal Egyptian nation, once again expresses its support for the legitimate struggles of the Palestinian people and hopes that the actions of the fraternal Egyptian nation, along with other Muslim and Arab brothers, will open the way to creation of understanding and a real, lasting and permanant peace in the region.

KHOMEYNI DELIVERS WORKERS DAY EXHORTATION

LD011752 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0430 GMT 1 May 79 LD

[Excerpts] His Great Eminence Ayatollah Imam Khomeyni has sent a message on the occasion of Workers Day, to which I draw your attention.

[Khomeyni--begin recording] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate, devoting one day to workers is perhaps a formality, because every day is, in fact, workers' day. The whole universe consists of work and the worker. The fact that we appoint one day to workers is like devoting a day to the sun; there is light every day, and there is sun every day; but perhaps this is for the sake of formalities, and for this reason, there is nothing against it. But to be realistic, work and the worker are ubiquitous: In the universe, nature and the supernatural have all been created through work, and work is an entity that penetrates all aspects of the universe. The universe has been created by the activities of some of the creatures; and one cannot find a creature without the involvement of work and the worker in it. In fact, creation is work; workers are a result of work, and have been created through work.

We ought not to devote a day to the worker on the basis that this day the worker's [words indistinct]. But there is nothing against our appointing one day for workers and thus communicating to the world that everything is a reflection of the work and the worker. Work is like the reflection of God which has permeated the whole of creation; all creatures consist of work and have come about as the result of work; all the particles of creation are workers; even atomic particles that exist in nature are intelligent workers. All particles of the universe are active and intelligent, only we surmise that they are not. There is truly nothing, no creature, that does not praise God, but you do not know it and are not aware of it. All offer praise to their true creator; all are God's laborers; all are [word indistinct] of God Almighty and work is present everywhere, and the entire world observes the Workers' Day; not merely one day for workers but throughout the world, every day is a workers' day. The whole world is at work and the entire universe is work, in the sense that the particles of creation that create, with the will of God Almighty, human beings and other living beings are laborers, and a human being is a manifestation of work. All creatures that you see in the universe are an effect of the active work of [word indistinct] of God. Praise be to God, all are workers and God Almighty is the origin of work. We celebrate this day because today has been devoted to the worker.

Our workers are individuals who are managers of the human community. Administration of affairs and the running of countries is in their hands: in the hands of farmers, factory workers, peasants and agriculturists; they are the people who administer countries and states. For this reason, the management of affairs on this earth, which is a small planet, is in the hands of workers, and it is their hands that administer the world and give life to the world and to a country. Hence, they are in charge of a major task; they deserve great respect but also have great responsibility. Whoever on this earth is venerable before God Almighty commands respect before man, and whoever is the source of greatest effect bears greatest responsibility. All the material bounty and good things that exist in our country are due to our workers, be it peasants or workers in factories and other places; hence they take priority above all.

However, what they are shouldering, what responsibility they are shouldering is greater than any other responsibility. If a country moves toward development it will do so by you, dear workers. If a country moves toward decline it will do so also because of you. A country moves toward decline as a result of not working, not working enough or of a lack of interest in working. The country today is yours; it belongs to the workers. The country is yours; foreigners no longer have anything to do with it; there is no longer repression, there is no longer pressure, there is no longer looting. The country today is yours, and you are now directly responsible for it. If you do not strive because of this responsibility, if you do not strive because of what has been entrusted to you, if you do not repay the debt you owe to your country and to Islam, then you will be worthless. If you strive and set in motion the country's wheels, then you will be greatly valued before the blessed the Almighty God. Islam attaches great value to you. Islam regards you as the (?custodians) of the earth. You are the treasurer of the earth. It is you who should develop the earth; it is for you to develop and it is for you that you do develop.

You should shoulder this responsibility as you know best and as you wish. You should not listen to the words of those who want to prevent these wheels from being set in motion. They have no interest in you.

It is dear Islam that attaches value to you, that entitles you to your rights, that will pay you your dues. Let Islam be realized. Let the rotten roots of despotism and colonialism be uprooted. Let those who want to work for others be paralyzed. You are our brothers, you are our dear ones, you should run this country. It is you who can bring this task to fruition. It is you who can set in motion the wheels of industry in factories and thus save the country. It is you, the farmers, who can set in motion the wheels of agriculture.

Islam entitles you to your rights, and it will pay everyone's dues. This applies to all working men and women, all farming men and women. Islam holds women dear and will repay them their dues. Let Islam be realized, let the Islamic Republic with illuminating Islamic laws be realized. Do not allow those who do not wish to see our agriculture restored and those who do not want to see our factories back to work deceive you. They want to deceive you to take away the country's fruits, to take away the country's riches to have a free hand. You should appreciate this point everyone should realize this. I pray to the blessed Almighty God for everyone's health and peace, for the greatness of Islam, for greatness of the nation and for [word indistinct] independence of this nation. Let all of you, farmers with us, workers with us, and all together move forward. Let peace be upon you with God's mercy and favors.

Shari'at-Madari Addresses Workers

LD012325 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 1 May 79 LD

[Excerpts] On the occasion of Workers' Day, the Ayatollah Shari'at-Madari has sent a message which you will now hear:

[Shari'at-Madari--begin recording] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate, I beg to congratulate all workers throughout the world, particularly Muslim workers and by the same token Iranian workers, on this day, which is world Workers Day. I beseech Almighty God for their success all in their work for good. Work and workers enjoy greater importance and respect under Islam at a time when workers are deemed a degraded and lowly class and at a time when in every realm idleness constitutes one of the laws or one of the traditions in force. Under Islam idleness is utterly forbidden. Whereas idleness has been the rule in most countries, Islam has prohibited this. Every worker enjoys respect in accordance with his work and should receive sufficient wages for his work.

At a time when workers were deemed as a lowly class and when they did not have the right to talk to their masters, their superiors, with their employers, the holy Imam Rida--may God's peace be upon him--used to eat lunch with all his workers. The holy and most generous Prophet and the holy Imam 'Ali--may God's peace be upon him--used to treat workers as equals and had their mutual respect. The Holy Imam 'Ali himself used to work in the orchards. This is a state of affairs ordained by God, that is, that all should work. The Lord has ordained: God verily hates an idle youth. God is the enemy of a youth who has ability but does not work. Then all our workers, all men should work.

The entire world is in motion. According to the poet Sa'di: The clouds, winds, moon, sun and celestial sphere are working. The entire world is in motion and doing work and mankind cannot be left behind in this natural law. Everyone should work.

Of course, certain kinds of work are taboo and forbidden from the standpoint of Islam, while others are useless. One should refrain from doing such work. When a Muslim worker does work, apart from receiving a wage or a salary for his physical labor, he should pursue humane and moral aims with his work. He should know that this work is essential for the well-being of society, is useful and has been ordained by God. Should this work be coupled with moral gain then this work is like an act of worship, like praying and fasting, and deserves spiritual reward, both in this world and in the hereafter. Therefore, a Muslim worker is distinguished by the fact that his work is not of a purely material nature: It is endowed with a moral side, too. Such work which has a moral purpose is no longer tiring. It brings pleasure to man.

I have already begged to say that work is essential for the realm. Our Muslim workers should know that our realm is in such a state that at this time everyone should participate in this construction work. The worker, too, to the best of his ability should do his share of work and serve the realm, the people and Muslims, and work to meet their needs. However, as ordained by our Prophet--may God's benedictions and peace be upon him--the worker should pay meticulous attention to his work. He should not do his work haphazardly and in a cavalier manner and abandon his responsibilities. God extends His mercy to a worker who works well.

This particular attention being paid to work, that is, working well and producing good commodities of high quality, brings forth many benefits. One of these benefits is for the worker himself, since he would then be doing a human duty, carrying out continual humane work; and this would be proof of the sublime nature of man's role. Second, this work will be extremely useful to society, so much so that should all the workers observe this, the realm's economic position would improve and the realm would gain strength and would escape from economic weakness which is the corollary of colonialist influence.

May God Almighty first protect and guide all the workers of the world, particularly Muslim workers, Iranian workers, so that they may establish contact with Him, they may have lofty aims, carry out their work for God, know their social duties, may exercise cooperation, may move and work for us, for the entire nation and for humanitarian and Islamic aims and revolutionary aims, may participate and work; and, second, the mighty and great has ordained to grant them all strength, physical strength, spiritual strength and grant them all [words indistinct]. I beg to say that they should not listen to those who sometimes come--as is said--with their satanical temptations among the workers, in the factories and on the farms and indulge in self-righteous talk. The workers should not listen to their words but instead continue their work and tasks. And may God Almighty grant them happiness in this world and in the hereafter and bring them to a lofty stage of humanitarianism and Islamism--God willing!

BAZARGAN NOTES IRAN'S PROBLEMS, BLAMES WESTERN PRESS

LD012220 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 2030 GMT 1 May 79 LD

[Text] In an interview with a French-speaking correspondent, Prime Minister Bazargan said: The provisional Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran, like all other governments, faces difficulties, particularly when the questions of reconstructing a country which has been torn apart and of setting up a new system are brought up. We have social, economic, political and administrative problems, but fortunately they can be solved. Workshops, factories and firms in the private and public sectors have resumed work.

The local disturbances which have taken place within the country or in the border regions have been solved one by one, thanks to the goodness, the will, the effort and the ideological unity and support of practically the entire nation.

Prime Minister Bazargan said: The national army, which in the beginning was torn to pieces, has been reconstructed and reorganized. Pertaining to oil, the prime minister said: Iran's exports at present are about 3.5 million barrels per day.

The correspondent asked the prime minister: What is your opinion about the unfriendly position adopted by the Western press toward the Islamic Republic of Iran?

Mr Bazargan said: I do not find this position easily justifiable. Indeed, an extensive press propaganda campaign has been conducted against Iran. The pretext of the Western press is the executions sanctioned by the revolutionary courts, and it seems that public opinion in Europe and the United States is gradually taking an unfavorable view of our country. We Iranians cannot understand the sentiments and support displayed by the Western press for the traitors and criminals in our country, traitors and criminals who ruled this country for more than 25 years in the most oppressive and barbarous manner.

In the meantime, if we compare the number of those executed by revolutionary courts--who do not add up even to 60--with more than 100,000 persons who were either killed or tortured during the reign of the shah, justification of the behavior of the Western press becomes even more difficult. What is important, and I must remind people of this--and of course the foreign press is either unwilling or unable to understand it--is that a number of our compatriots are still continuing the struggle against the shah's regime and agents. At present a lawful government is in power and a revolutionary situation and spirit still remain. A nation which has given up so many dead and wounded and has been plundered is not prepared to become calm the moment the shah leaves and his regime is overthrown. This nation, with this national spirit, expects to clean up its social problems as soon as possible; and because it could not do so in the past because of its lack of power, it now wishes to see this carried out very quickly.

SANJABI INTERVIEWED ON GOALS OF NATIONAL FRONT

LD011959 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 1 May 79 LD

[Text] In an interview with PARS Dr Karim Sanjabi, secretary of the National Front of Iran, strongly rejects the view that the National Front has now lost the initiative and is merely following the events of the day, and emphasizes that the fundamental course of the National Front is struggle against despotism, colonialism and exploitation.

Dr Karim Sanjabi said: The Iranian people in fact have two identities: One is an Iranian national identity and the other is an Islamic identity, which we have always emphasized and with which we have cooperated, as it has always opposed the apparatus of oppression, despotism and injustice and has always striven to obtain the rights of the Iranian nation vis-a-vis foreign transgression.

In this interview Dr Sanjabi gave his points of view pertaining to the present problems of the revolution, the economic and political difficulties and their solutions. He said: The best thing to do in order to serve the working class in the realm and to protect the interests of the workers is to create work for them. He said: What is important in these circumstances is to set in motion the realm's industry and to set in motion production work so that full employment may be secured for the people.

Sanjabi added: A realm as vast as Iran with its diverse terrain and climatic conditions indeed has the ability not only to meet domestic needs, but also to create sufficient resources for export. He said: The National Front believes that the mother industries and all the industries which naturally incline towards monopoly should be nationalized. At the same time, Sanjabi backed private capitalism and personal initiative in this area. He said: We even encourage personal initiative. We believe that even these select industries should be safeguarded and then gradually be turned into genuine nationalized industries.

FOREIGN MINISTRY CONDEMNS RHODESIAN ELECTIONS

ID011851 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 1 May 79 LD

[Text] The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Islamic Republic of Iran today issued the following announcement concerning the recent elections in Rhodesia:

In His Exalted name. Ever since World War II the oppressed people of Zimbabwe-Rhodesia have continued their ceaseless struggles against the oppressions and strains of the white, illegal regime of Smith which is the executor of the evil plans of colonialism and which has been supported by Western countries and the racist Government of South Africa both publicly and secretly. The former (?regime) of Iran, in blind imitation of the policies of major Western countries, had secret military and security relations with the illegal government of Ian Smith and showed no opposition to the export of Iranian oil to Rhodesia by the British oil companies BP and Shell, as demonstrated by documents revealed by antiracist groups.

Bishop Abel Muzorewa--the leader of the United African National Council, Zimbabwe, who by collusion with Ian Smith and by taking part in the recent elections in Rhodesia was elected prime minister--received not only financial assistance from the former regime in Iran. His security agents were trained by SAVAK, and even the personal and educational expenses of his children in foreign countries were paid from the treasury of the lowly people of Iran. The recent elections in this country--which took place without the participation of the struggling guerrilla forces--were held through an agreement of Ian Smith with (?three) of the collaborating black leaders who lack any popular basis. These elections were banned by the Patriotic Front of the people of Rhodesia, which has been recognized by the whole of Africa and which controls more than 80 percent of its country by its guerrilla activities.

Bearing in mind that this transition of power to the blacks in Rhodesia is only for show and does not constitute the true sovereignty of the people in this land due to the strong concessions given to the whites--18 seats in the Parliament and also the military, police and legal powers are under the control of the whites--it cannot meet with the support of public opinion in the world. Therefore, the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran, because of its deep concern for the liberating struggles of the lowly nations of world against imperialism and colonialism, while expressing its support for the Patriotic Front, condemns any recognition of the new black government of Zimbabwe.

WOMEN LAWYERS EXPRESS CONCERN OVER ROLE UNDER ISLAMIC LAW

LD012052 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 1 May 79 LD

[Text] A number of women lawyers and trainee judges in a gathering in the conference hall of Tehran University expressed their problems and their demands. At this meeting some of the legal experts and also the director of the Iranian Human Rights Association and the representative of the trainees made speeches. Dr Lahiji said there is no distinction between men and women in the legal profession, and as the law is explicit in this regard, the Ministry of Justice should issue the law certificates of the women lawyers and trainee judges. One of the participants also talked about the position of women judges from the viewpoint of Islam based upon the verses of the holy Koran. According to the dispatch of our reporter, two representatives of the women lawyers and trainee judges met the minister of justice this morning, who said that their problems and demands are being studied and investigated and arrangements will be made which would meet with their approval.

TEHRAN REPORTS ATTEMPTED JAIL BREAKS

LD011827 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 1 May 79 LD

[Text] According to a PARS report, a group of ordinary prisoners attempted to escape from the police headquarters jail this afternoon by setting fire to their (?bunks) and cells.

According to this report the prisoners set fire to the Western wing of the jail to begin with, but firemen succeeded in putting out the fire. However, the prisoners then set fire to the eastern wing and took the unarmed guards inside the jail as hostages. Nevertheless, officers of the Imam Khomeyni Committee arrived on the scene and the prisoners were not able to escape. Committee officers are already deployed around the jail and are barring cars and pedestrians.

According to another PARS report, a number of ordinary prisoners held by the Kermanshah police headquarters rioted and attempted to escape by breaking the windows of the jail. Following this riot the Revolutionary Gurards quelled the riot by firing several rounds of ammunition in the air. In the course of this riot two ordinary prisoners managed to escape.

GORGAN REVOLUTIONARY COURT SENTENCES THREE TO DEATH

LD011949 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 1 May 79 LD

[Text] The Islamic Revolutionary Court of Gorgan city, after holding many sessions on the files of several agents of the previous regime diagnosed as sowing corruption on earth, found three members of the Gorgan police--Col Hoseyn Va'ezi, the former chief of police; Maj Kiumars Salimizadeh and police patrolman Alireza Kamali--guilty of activities to crush the freedom seekers and strugglers of Gorgan city, and sentenced them to death. The death sentences were carried out at 0415 today.

Ths Islamic Revolutionary Court of Gorgan also issued the following sentences on four other members of the police and gendarmerie of this city:

Police Patrolman Kamali sentenced to 1 year imprisonment and dismissal from service for the crimes of battery, inflicting bodily injury and creation of terror; 2d Lt Esfandiar Hushmad-Nia, operation officer at the Gaz village incident which led to the killing and wounding of a number of people was sentenced to 5 years' imprisonment and dismissal from service; Eskandar Ja'fari, chief of the patrol post of Gaz village, was sentenced to 18 months' imprisonment and dismissal from service for battery, inflicting bodily injury, and torture and terror in his zone of office on the people of Gaz village. Mohammad Nezafat Najfabadi, a work force NCO, was sentenced to 2 months' correctional imprisonment for participation in the Gaz village incident and obstructing the people's demonstration.

NVOI ON AGRICULTURAL POLICY, IMPERIALIST PLOTS

TA011506 [Editorial Report TA] The clandestine National Voice of Iran in Azerbaijani to Iran at 1745 GMT on 29 April carries a commentary scoring the shah's agricultural policy and urging the workers and farmers to increase production. The commentary says: "Dear compatriots: Currently great tasks fall upon our struggling and toiling farmers and workers. They must increase agricultural production to meet the people's needs for foodstuffs and other things. Our workers and especially our farmers suffered enormously under the traitor and fugitive shah's regime. That was a regime which strengthened the traitorous and parasitic landlords' domination of millions of toiling farmers. Tens of hundreds of thousands of armed people, consisting of gendarmes, soldiers and SAVAK agents, were placed at the disposal of big landlords and of the West's harmful monopolies and companies."

The commentary says: "The defunct regime's agricultural policy not only protected the big landlords but it also pursued a policy designed to make Iran an open market for foodstuffs imported from Western countries, especially from the United States. Big landlords, in cooperation with foreign companies, transferred lands which produced cereals and other essential and vital agricultural products, into lands on which products needed by their foreign masters were grown. As a result of the ousted shah's destructive policy, our country, which was self-sufficient with regard to agricultural products, was forced to import not only cereals but even onions and potatoes."

The commentary goes on to say: "As a result of the shah's traitorous agricultural policy villages were destroyed and villagers became idle men. Now that the traitorous regime has been overthrown our country's agricultural policy should be changed to conform with the requirements of our country's national, Islamic and democratic revolution. Our country's revolutionary Islamic government's agricultural policy should above all be designed to benefit those farmers and producers who are directly engaged in the production of foodstuffs."

After noting that the farmers suffered the greatest deprivation and the lowest standard of living during the shah's reign, the commentary says: "The people are saying that justice demands that lands grabbed by the big landlords should be confiscated and given to farmers. This will also help increase production. Farmers must have the opportunity to receive the value of their toil."

In conclusion the commentary says that the government has announced that this year it will buy farm products at just prices and that this will encourage production as well as help the farmers.

The radio then carries a commentary saying that "Imperialists Continue Their Plots Against Iran." The commentary says: "One should not ignore even for a moment the fact that imperialist states headed by U.S. imperialism are day and night trying to regain what they have lost in Iran as a result of the people's rejection of the shah. The Iranian revolution has shaken U.S. imperialism. It has especially dealt a great blow at U.S. imperialism's position in the Near and Middle East. It has also destroyed Israel's most reliable stronghold. With the overthrow of the hated shah, Israel's presence in Iran was upset, and aggressive Israel was deprived not only of Iran's oil but also of the support of the shah."

The commentary then says: "The fact is that not only U.S. imperialism, but also Israel and other imperialist states are engaged day and night in plots against the Iranain revolution. Day in, day out, in some part of our country they resort to provocations and conspiracies against our country. They are sowing seeds of discord and hostility among our people and among the national and progressive forces and national and democratic parties. They are trying to create a feeling of pessimism among our people toward the revolutionary government. They are resorting to every crime to fulfill their treacherous aims. They do not hesitate to shoot and kill. They take sides and cause local or ethnic conflicts and, especially, create great difficulties for the revolutionary government and the leaders of the revolution by using their agents in the committees."

After noting that in his speech delivered recently at the (Fayziyah) School in Qom "His Great Holiness Ayatollah Taleqani stated that the enemy is trying to infiltrate our ranks with all its force by making use of our difficulties," but warned that "we should not exaggerate the difficulties," the commentary concludes:

"Difficulties are many but our country's people and all of our nation's parties and national and progressive forces are at the service of the nation's great revolution. They are exerting all their efforts to protect and strengthen the revolution's achievements. The efforts and concern of Iran's true revolutionaries are directed toward a vital issue: unity of word and action. As has also been stated by our revolution's leaders on various occasions, the secret of the victory of Iran's great revolution is the nation's unity of word and action. No one can deny this. In this connection the enemies of the revolution should be warned that millions of free Iranians, who have achieved the revolution at the cost of their blood, are also determined to benefit from the revolution, if need be, at the cost of their blood."

INDIA

SANJAY GANDHI, 400 OTHERS ARRESTED FOR RIOTING

BK011559 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 1 May 79 BK

[Text] In New Delhi today a youth Congress-I demonstration protesting against the special courts bill turned violent. According to the police sources, the demonstrators forced some businessmen in the Janpath area to close their shops and threw stones and soda water bottles at those shops which were not closed. The police burst 25 rounds of teargas shells and resorted to a lathi [baton] charge to disperse the demonstrators.

About 400 persons were arrested on charges of rioting. They included Mr Sanjay Gandhi and two MP's, Mr M. Arunachalam and Mr Ramlingham.

The deputy commissioner of police, Mr P.R.S. Brar, who was injured in the melee, later told newsmen that Mr Sanjay Gandhi had manhandled him and encouraged other demonstrators to beleaguer him. He said six policemen were also hurt.

Vajpayee on Violence

BK020337 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 2 May 79 BK

[Text] External Affairs Minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee has in a statement said the violence which followed the Congress-I demonstration in New Delhi against the special court's bill portends grim prospect for the life and property of the public and the future of democracy. The senseless damage is a precurser to the nationwide stir proposed to be launched by the Congress-I. Mr Vajpayee, Prime Minister Desai, and union Home Minister Patel visited the scene of incidents yesterday evening.

Meanwhile, Mr Sanjay Gandhi and several youth Congress-I workers were ordered last night to be released on bail by metropolitan magistrate S.K. Tandon on furnishing a personal bond of 2,000 rupees each and one surety of a like amount. The magistrate's order was announced after midnight.

Mr Gandhi and his supporters were taken into custody yesterday after violent clashes with the police when they were holding a demonstration in Janpath area of New Delhi. The Janpath Traders Association has alleged that three shops were looted by the demonstrators and some shopkeepers were beaten. They accused the police of not taking timely action. Congress-I General Secretary Buta Singh has demanded a judicial inquiry into the incident.

TIBETAN REFUGEES FORM COMMUNIST PARTY

BK301704 Hong Kong AFP in English 1649 GMT 30 Apr 79 BK

[Text] New Delhi, 30 Apr (AFP)--Some Tibetan refugees in India have now formed a Communist Party, it was announced here today.

Mr Nangyal, a founder member of the party, who announced the formation of the party, said a three-member nucleus had already started functioning and a mass enrollment drive was underway.

Last week, another group of Tibetans-in-exile had announced the launching of an organisation, National Democratic Movement of Tibet, to work for the independence of their homeland.

Mr Nangyal, who was working as a security guard in Tibet until his escape to India in 1974, said the party had been formed to "create an awareness among the Tibetans living in exile about the communist theory and the way of life and to prepare them for their eventual return home."

He said the party had in fact been formed a year ago, but its existence was kept a closely guarded secret as they were not sure of its reaction among the conservative Tibetans. "But now we are happy to note the idea is not at all reprehensible to our leader Dalai Lama and other Tibetans," he said.

PAKISTAN

SAUDI PRINCE ARRIVES FOR 5-DAY VISIT

BK301634 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT 30 Apr 79 BK

[Text] Prince Muhammad al-Faysal Al Sa'ud of Saudi Arabia was given a warm welcome on his arrival in Karachi this evening on a 5-day visit to Pakistan. Sind Governor Lt Gen S.M. Abbasi and others welcomed him. The royal guest's engagements in Karachi include laying a wreath at the tomb of Qaide Azam Mohammad Ali Jinnah and meetings with the state bank governor, prominent bankers and members of the Federation of Pakistan Chambers of Commerce. The Sind governor is hosting a banquet in honor of the distinguished guest. The prince will leave Karachi for Islamabad on Wednesday morning.

DETENTION OF BHUTTO'S DAUGHTER EXTENDED

BK301728 Hong Kong AFP in English 1625 GMT 30 Apr 79 BK

[Text] Islamabad, 30 Apr (AFP)--The detention period of Benazir Bhutto, daughter of hanged former Prime Minister Zulfiqar Ali Bhutto, has been extended for another month, official sources said today.

Miss Bhutto, 26, was detained under preventive laws in October last year by the military government for launching a campaign to secure release of her father, who was arrested on a murder charge and executed on April 4.

A previous detention order that expired on April 15 had been extended for a fortnight.

[Word indistinct] orders were served today in Sihala police camp, 10 miles from here, where Miss Bhutto is detained along with her mother, Begum Nusrat Bhutto. The detention period of Begum Bhutto is due to end on May 5, and there was demand from political circles and Bhutto's Pakistan People's Party that the two women be allowed to spend the ritual 40 days mourning period in their home.

The government has not said whether the two will be allowed to participate in the Bhutto "Chehlum", a memorial service falling on May 11.